

NOW IN FULL COLOR!

35c
NOV.
40c IN CAN
IND



THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN



ROMITA

The SPIDER-MAN SAGA



JUST A FEW SHORT YEARS AGO, **PETER PARKER** WAS A SHY AND STUDIOUS HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR...CONSIDERED A TIMID **SQUARE** BY HIS FELLOW STUDENTS! THOUGH HE EXCELLED IN **SCIENCE**, HE NEVER QUITE **MADE IT** IN POPULARITY!

ORPHANED AT AN EARLY AGE, HE WAS RAISED BY HIS DOTING **AUNT MAY**, AND HER HUSBAND, **BEN PARKER** ...WHO WERE THE ONLY PARENTS THE BOY HAD EVER KNOWN!



PETER'S LIFE WAS STARTLINGLY **CHANGED** ONE DAY, WHEN HE FOUND HIMSELF BITTEN BY A **RADIOACTIVE SPIDER** DURING A SCIENTIFIC DEMONSTRATION! INSTANTLY, HE BECAME ENDOWED WITH THE PROPORTIONATE **STRENGTH** AND **POWERS** OF A SPIDER ITSELF-- AND SO WAS BORN-- THE AMAZING **SPIDER-MAN!**

FEELING HIMSELF RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SUBSEQUENT **DEATH** OF HIS UNCLE **BEN**, **SPIDER-MAN** VOWED TO DEVOTE HIS LIFE TO THE CAUSE OF **JUSTICE**-- NO MATTER WHAT THE **COST!**

THE GOBLIN LIVES!

SCRIPT:
STAN
(THE MAN)
LEE

ILLUSTRATION:
JOHNNY
(RING-A-DING)
ROMITA

JIMMY
(MAD MAN)
MOONEY

LETTERING: "SWINGING" SAMMY ROSEN

IN A DIMLY-LIT ROOM, AT NEW YORK'S EXCLUSIVE EXECUTIVE CLUB, WE FIND CAPT. GEORGE STACY, N.Y.P.D., RET., CONDUCTING A SPECIAL SEMINAR IN THE HISTORY OF SUPER-VILLAINS, FOR THE ENLIGHTENMENT OF HIS FELLOW CLUB MEMBERS.

AND, WE SEEM TO HAVE JOINED THEM AT A MOST PROPITIOUS MOMENT...

I DON'T LIKE IT! MR. OSBORN LOOKS UPSET!

I WISH HE HADN'T INVITED HARRY AND ME TO BE HIS GUESTS TODAY!

... AND MOST OF ALL, I WISH HE HIMSELF HADN'T COME!

THE PICTURE YOU ARE WITNESSING IS ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS EXAMPLES OF TWO SUPER-POWERED FOES IN DEADLY COMBAT!

CRIMINOLOGISTS THROUGHT THE WORLD STILL STUDY THIS EPIC BATTLE BETWEEN A DESPERATE SPIDER-MAN AND... THE GREEN GOBLIN!

DAD... YOU'RE PERSPIRING!

IS IT TOO WARM HERE FOR YOU?

GREAT PICTURES, AREN'T THEY, JAMESON?

BAH! I'D LIKE THEM BETTER IF I DIDN'T KNOW HOW IT ENDS.

I DON'T KNOW, HARRY...

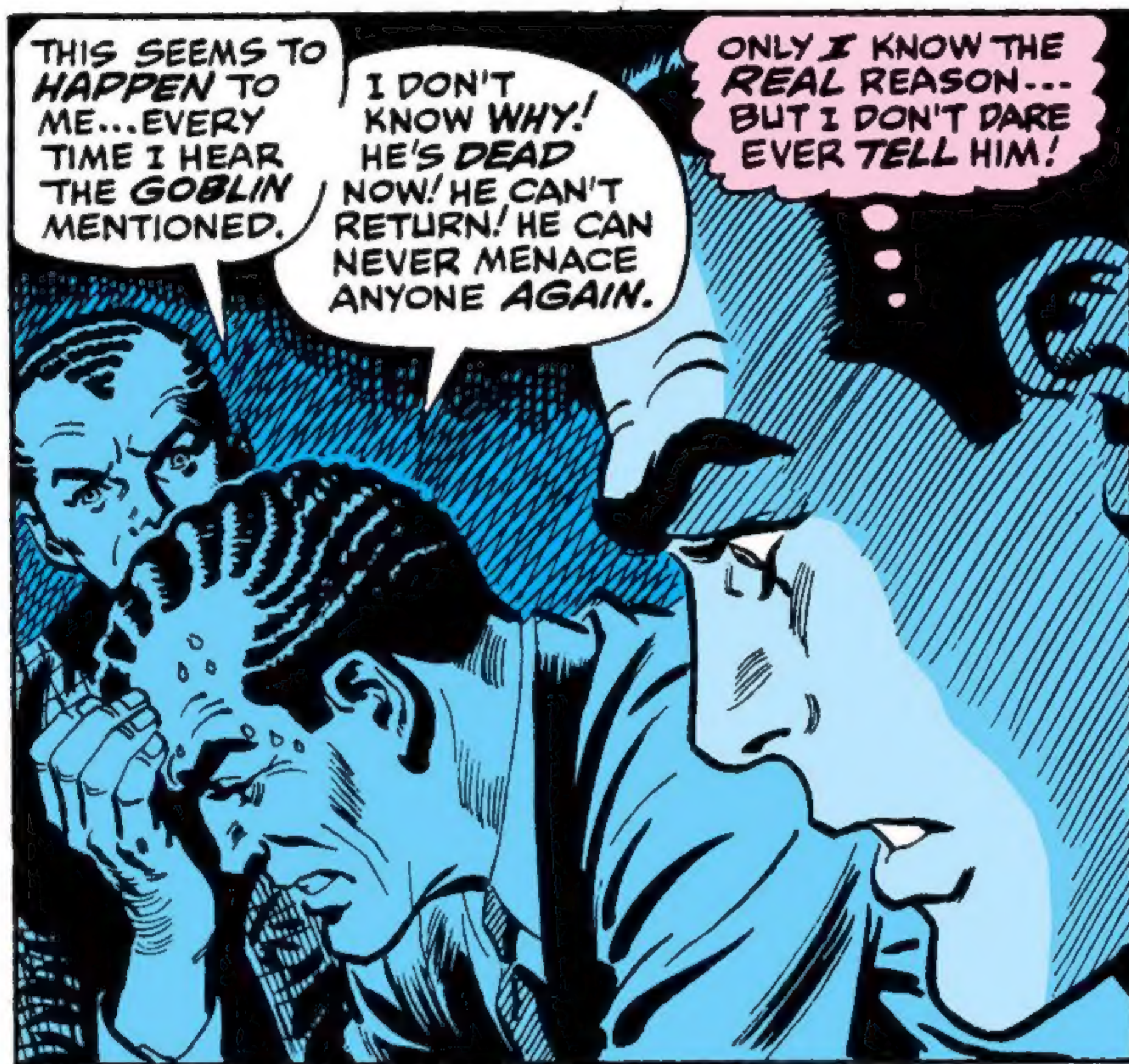
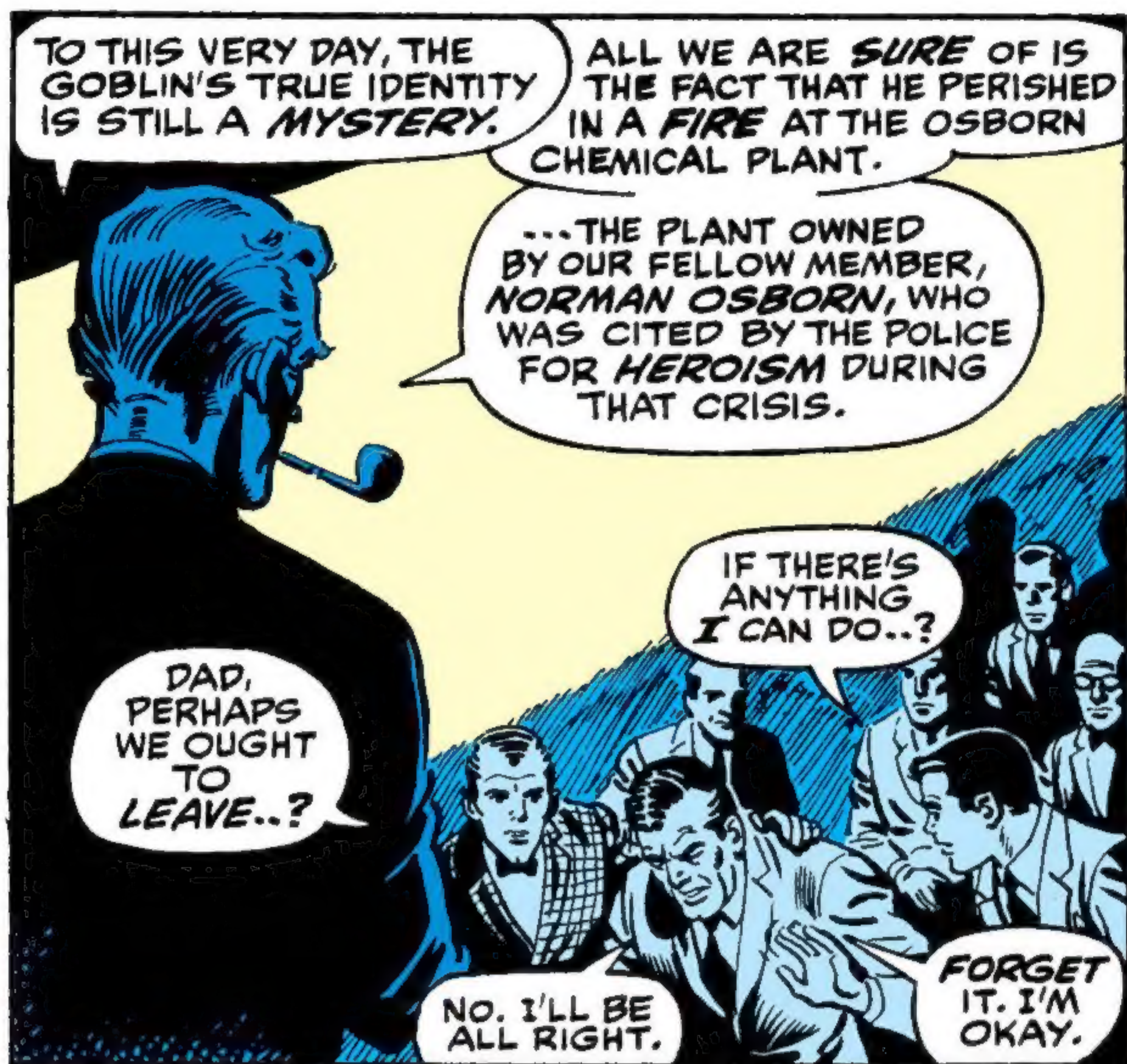
I JUST DON'T FEEL WELL!

THAT BLASTED WEB-SLINGER SHOULD HAVE BEEN KILLED... JUST LIKE THE GOBLIN WAS.

HOW ABOUT KEEPING IT DOWN TO A BELLOW, JONAH?

YOU CAN LECTURE WHEN STACY IS FINISHED.





"I'LL NEVER FORGET OUR VERY FIRST **ENCOUNTER...** BEFORE I BECAME AWARE HOW **DANGEROUS** HE'D BE."



"HE SEEMED UTTERLY **WITHOUT FEAR...** AND I SOON LEARNED THE REASON **WHY...**"

"HE WAS ARMED WITH SIMPLE BUT HIGHLY-LETHAL **WEAPONS...** WHICH HE USED WITH **UNCANNY ACCURACY...**"



MY LITTLE **FLYING MISSILE** CAN SLICE THRU YOUR WEBBING WITH **EASE.**

AND HE KIDS ME **NOT!**



"IT TOOK EVERY BIT OF WEB-SLINGING **SKILL** I POSSESSED TO KEEP UP WITH HIM."

YOU SEEM TO HAVE A **DEATH WISH**, MY FRIEND!

AND I'LL DO MY BEST TO **FUL-FILL** IT!



FACE IT, SPIDEY! HE'S FAR **MORE** THAN A CRAZY, COSTUMED NUT. YOU'VE GOT A **FIGHT** ON YOUR HANDS.

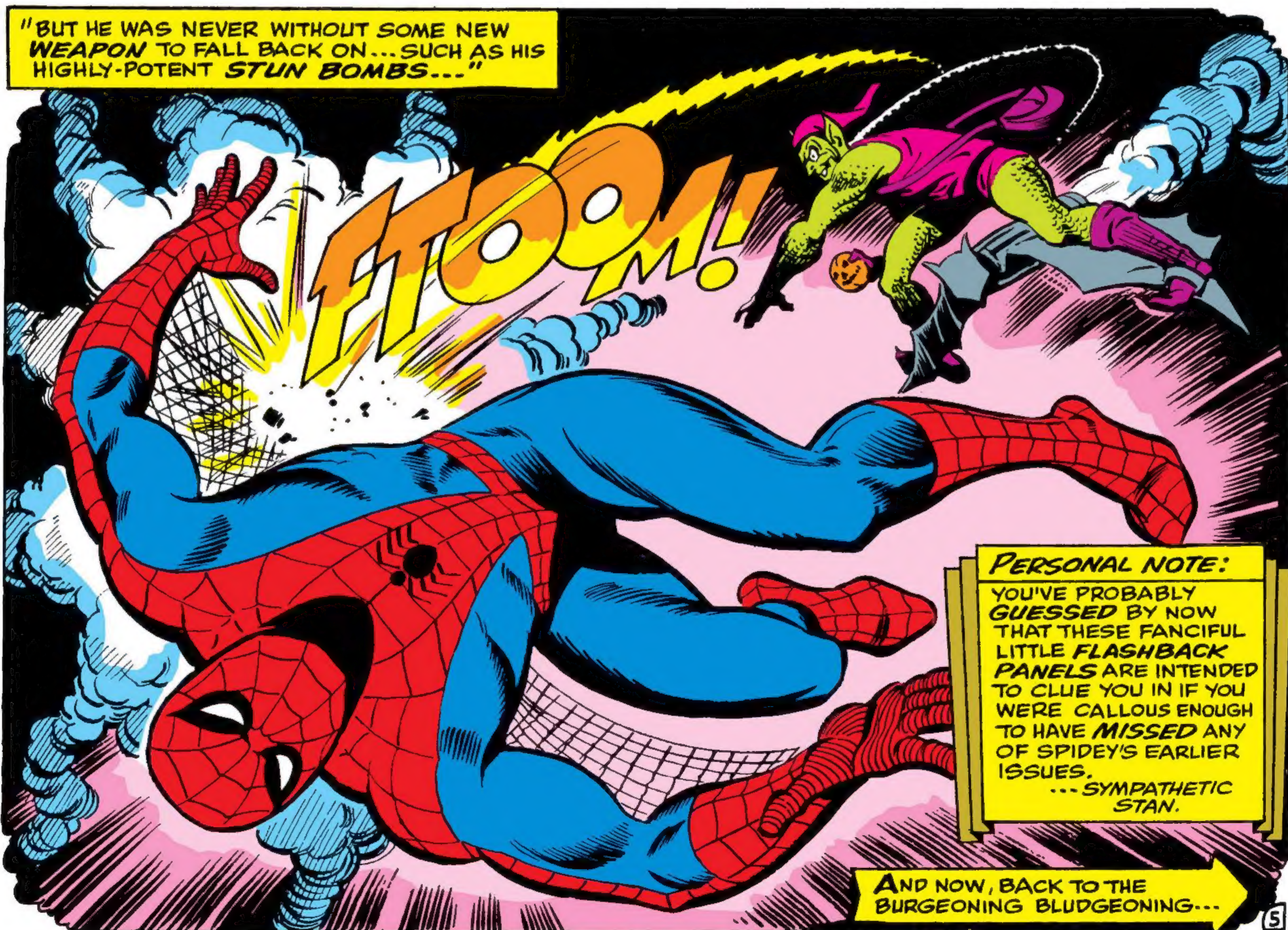


YOU
ELUDED
MY GOBLIN
GLIDER'S
ROCKET
BLAST
THAT
TIME...

BUT YOU
CAN'T DO IT
FOREVER!



"OF COURSE, I MANAGED
TO GET IN *MY* SHARE OF
LICKS, ALSO..."



"BUT HE WAS NEVER WITHOUT SOME NEW
WEAPON TO FALL BACK ON... SUCH AS HIS
HIGHLY-POTENT *STUN BOMBS*..."

PERSONAL NOTE:

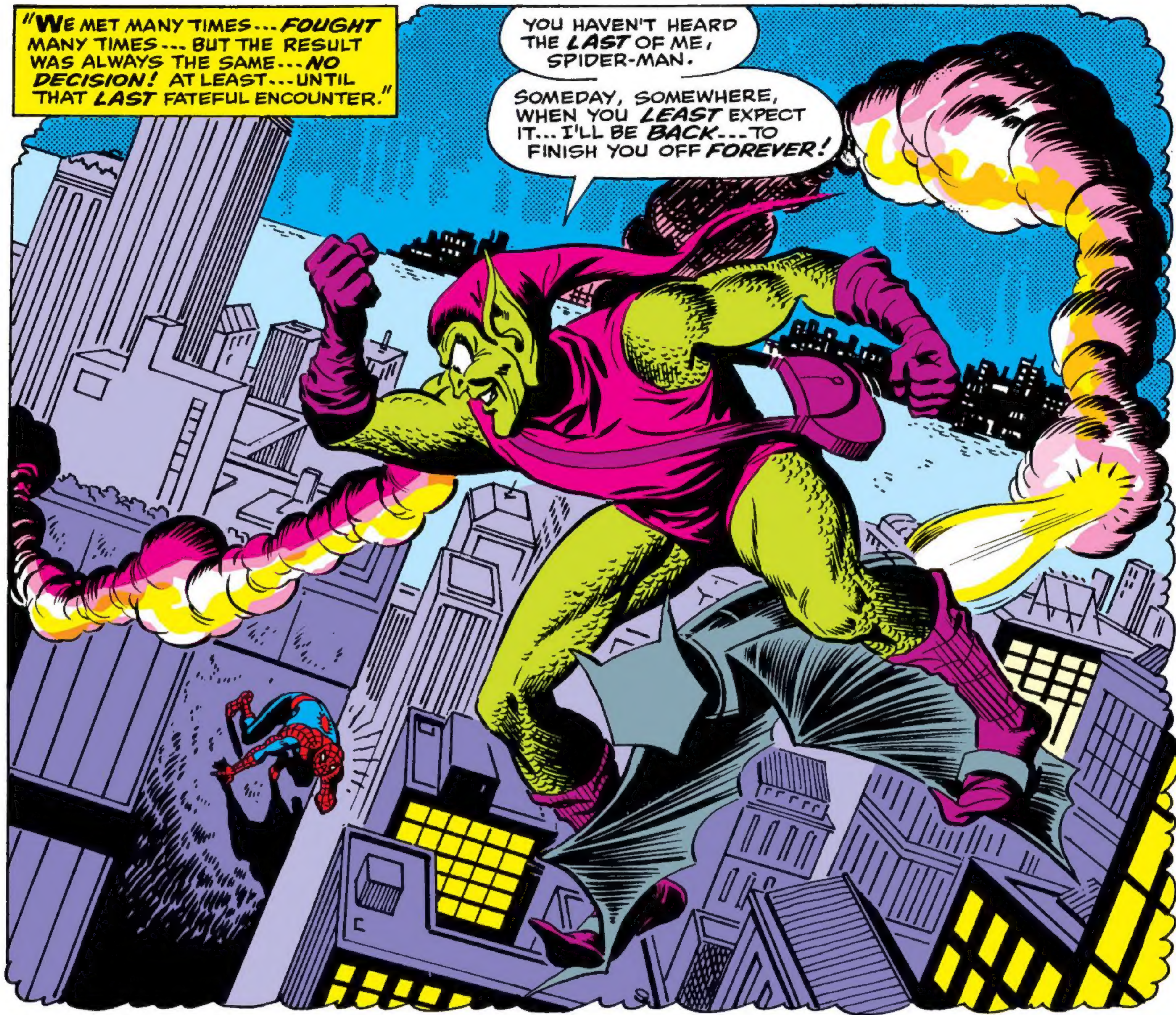
YOU'VE PROBABLY
GUESSED BY NOW
THAT THESE FANCIFUL
LITTLE *FLASHBACK*
PANELS ARE INTENDED
TO CLUE YOU IN IF YOU
WERE CALLOUS ENOUGH
TO HAVE *MISSED* ANY
OF SPIDEY'S EARLIER
ISSUES.
... SYMPATHETIC
STAN.

AND NOW, BACK TO THE
BURGEONING BLUDGEONING...

"WE MET MANY TIMES... **FOUGHT** MANY TIMES... BUT THE RESULT WAS ALWAYS THE SAME... **NO DECISION!** AT LEAST... UNTIL THAT **LAST** FATEFUL ENCOUNTER."

YOU HAVEN'T HEARD THE **LAST** OF ME, SPIDER-MAN.

SOMEDAY, SOMEWHERE, WHEN YOU **LEAST** EXPECT IT... I'LL BE **BACK**... TO FINISH YOU OFF **FOREVER!**



AND HERE HE **SITS**... MY BEST FRIEND'S FATHER... NEVER SUSPECTING THAT ONCE WE BOTH WERE **MORTAL ENEMIES!**

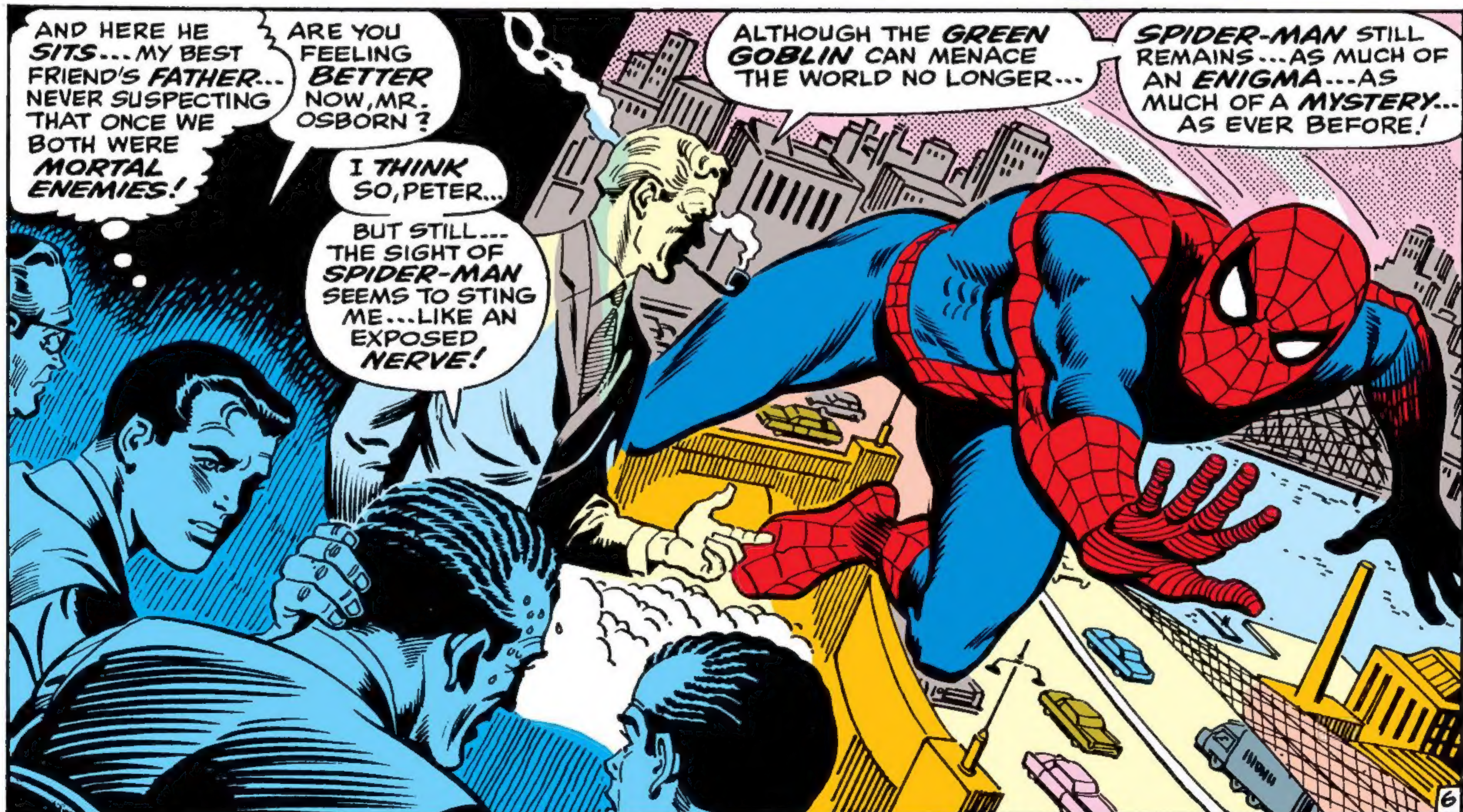
ARE YOU FEELING **BETTER** NOW, MR. OSBORN?

I THINK SO, PETER...

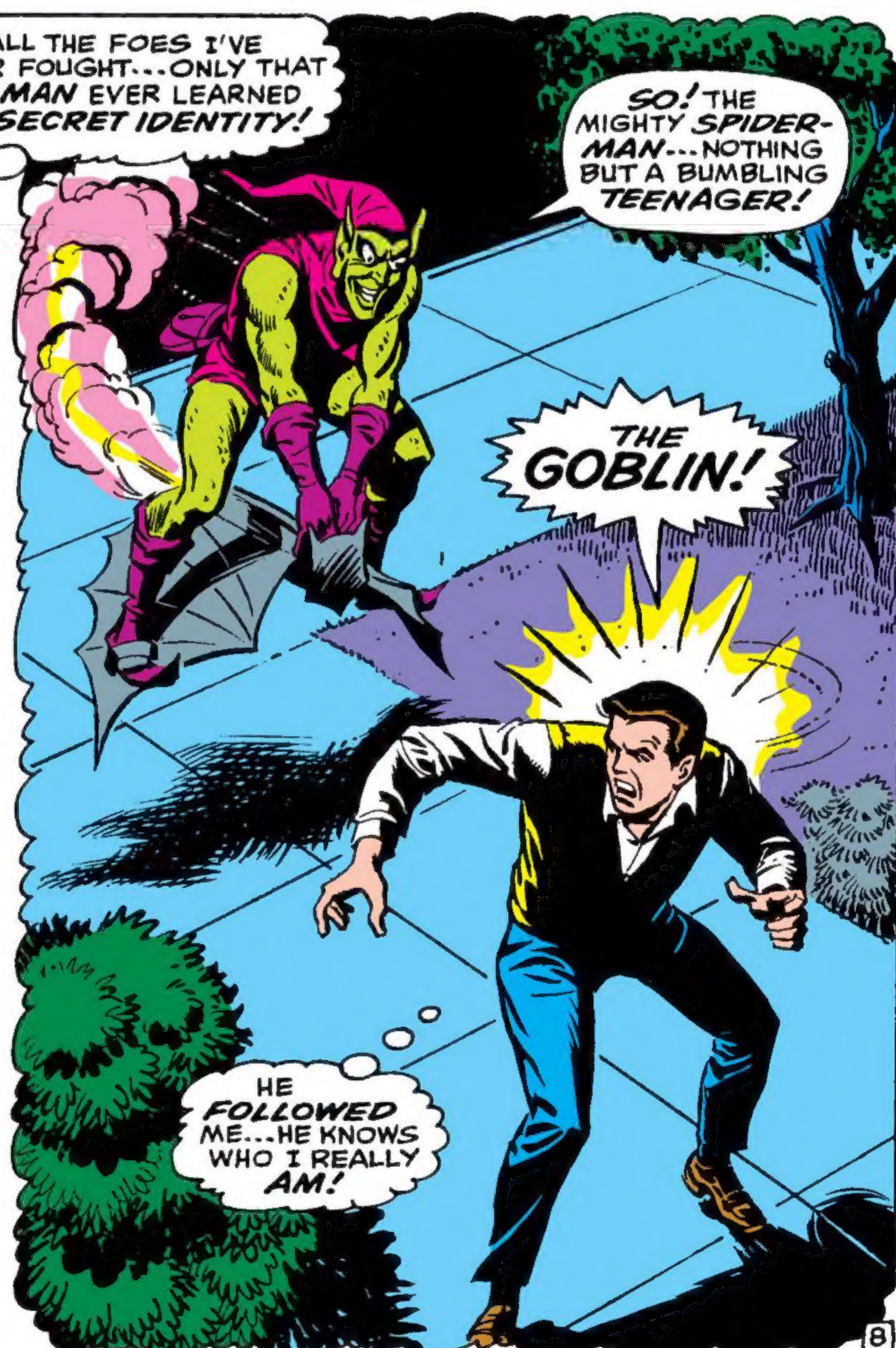
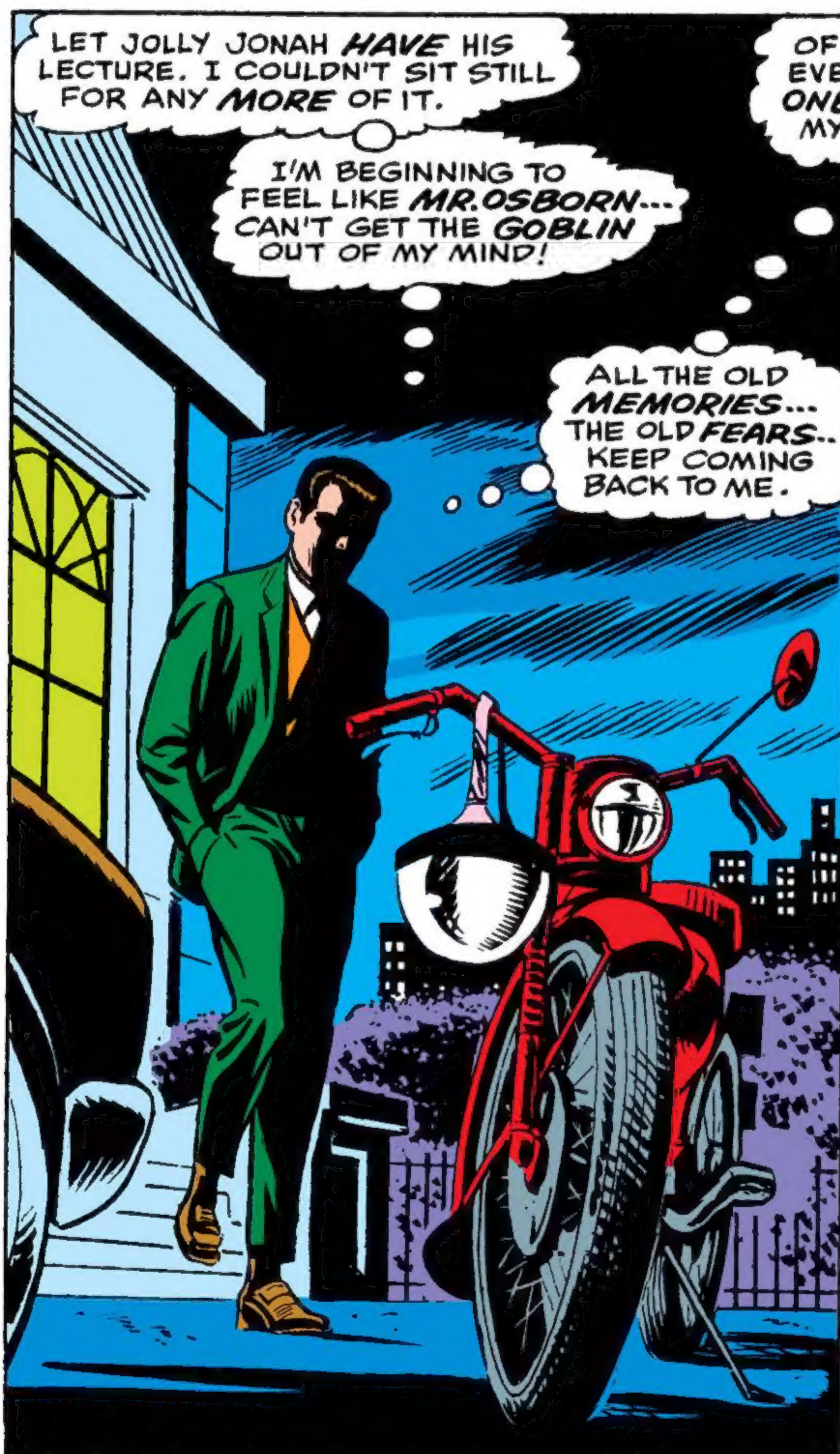
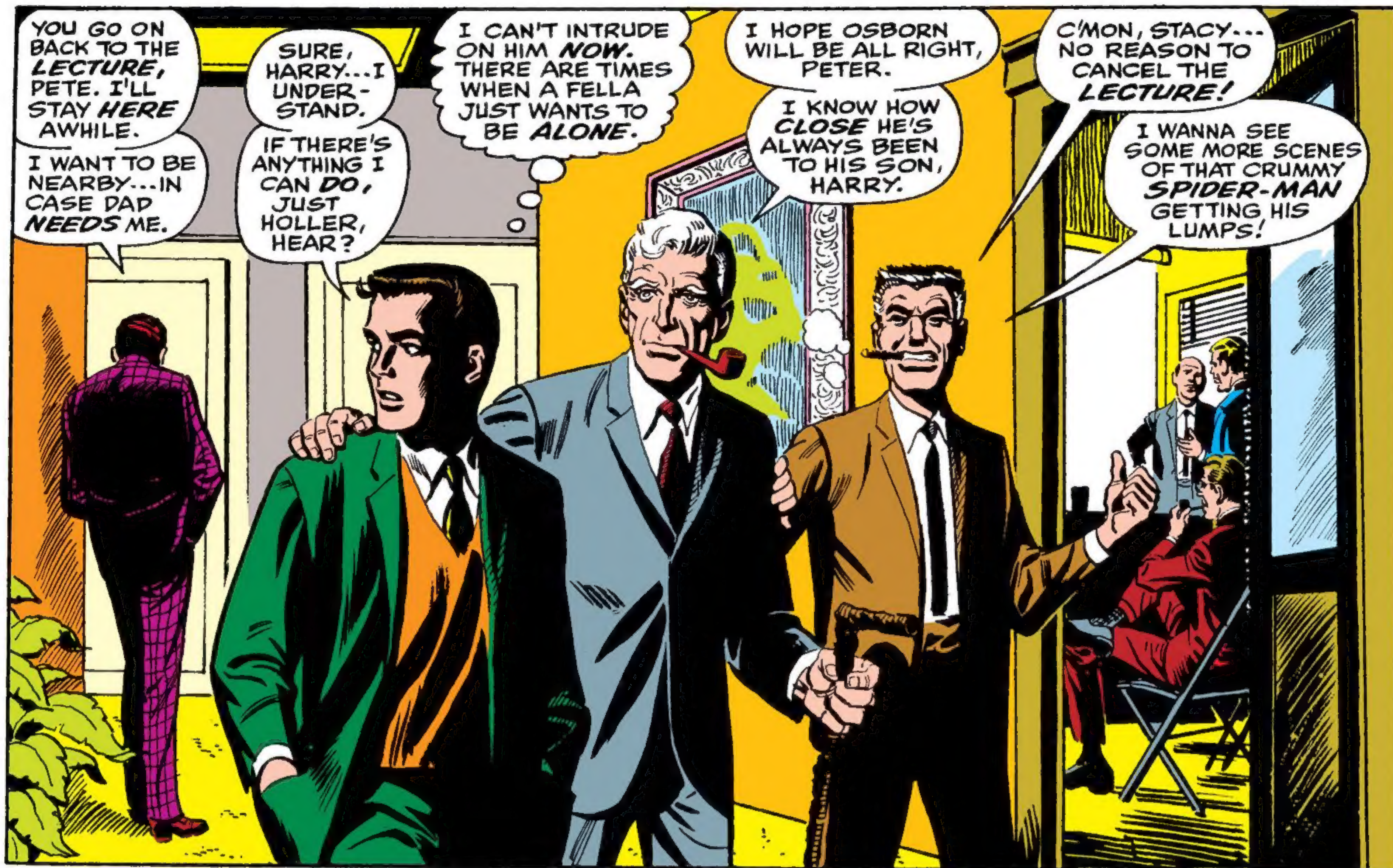
BUT STILL... THE SIGHT OF **SPIDER-MAN** SEEMS TO STING ME... LIKE AN EXPOSED **NERVE!**

ALTHOUGH THE **GREEN GOBLIN** CAN MENACE THE WORLD NO LONGER...

SPIDER-MAN STILL REMAINS... AS MUCH OF AN **ENIGMA**... AS MUCH OF A **MYSTERY**... AS EVER BEFORE!









I'VE GOT TO
SILENCE HIM
BEFORE IT'S
TOO LATE!

AUNT MAY
IS IN THE HOUSE!
IF SHE SHOULD
SEE ANY OF THIS
...IF SHE SHOULD
REALIZE WHO
I **AM**...

THE
SHOCK
COULD
KILL
HER!

YOU THINK YOU
CAN **SAVE**
YOURSELF,
DO YOU?

DID YOU SUPPOSE
I'D BE **FOOLISH**
ENOUGH TO ATTACK
YOU WITHOUT AN
INFALLIBLE **PLAN?**



A **PLAN**...
SUCH AS THE
POWERFUL
GAS I'VE
PREPARED
FOR YOU...

AGAINST WHICH
YOU CAN HAVE
NO POSSIBLE
DEFENSE!

NO!
HE CAN'T
BEAT ME...
HE CAN'T!

AUNT
MAY! WHAT
WILL HAPPEN...
TO **AUNT MAY?**



"**LUCKILY...AS I LATER
LEARNED...THE VERY GAS
WHICH DEFEATED ME,
ALSO SAVED ME FROM
DISCOVERY...**"

I THOUGHT
I **HEARD**
SOMETHING
OUTSIDE.

OH DEAR! I
CAN'T SEE A
THING THRU ALL
THOSE VAPORS!

IT MUST
HAVE BEEN
MY IMAGI-
NATION.



"**AS THE GOBLIN MADE ME HIS
PRISONER, WE BOTH KNEW
THIS WOULD BE OUR FINAL
BATTLE...**"

YOU'VE
ESCAPED
ME FOR THE
LAST TIME.

THIS
IS THE
PAY-OFF!

"HE WAS SO SURE I'D NEVER ESCAPE THAT HE GLOATINGLY REVEALED HIS TRUE IDENTITY..."

MR. OSBORN! MY BEST FRIEND'S FATHER!

TAKE A LOOK AT MY FACE, PARKER... A GOOD LONG LOOK!

IT'S THE LAST FACE YOU'LL EVER SEE... IN THIS LIFE!

"BUT, JUST WHEN THINGS SEEMED HOPELESS, I GOT A SECOND LEASE ON LIFE..."

IN HIS MADNESS, HE ALLOWED ME TO BREAK FREE!

HE WANTS TO DEFEAT ME AS SPIDER-MAN!

"BUT THAT WAS HIS BIGGEST MISTAKE! FOR HE HAD UNDERESTIMATED MY SPIDER STRENGTH..."

DIDN'T THINK I COULD FLOOR YOU, HUH?

WELL, THAT'S ONLY THE BEGINNING, OSBORN!

THIS IS WHERE WE WRAP IT UP... IN SPADES!

BUT, I'M NOT A MURDERER! I CAN'T JUST KILL HIM IN COLD BLOOD! AND YET... IF I LET HIM LIVE...

HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS WHO I REALLY AM!

HE COULD HOLD THAT OVER ME... FOREVER!

HE'S FALLING BACK... DROPPING THOSE LIVE WIRES ONTO THE WET FLOOR!

I LOST MY FOOTING!

IF I HIT THE CHEM TANK, I'LL... NO! NO!

"AND, HIT IT HE *DID*... RECEIVING THE FULL EFFECT OF A SUDDEN ELECTRO-CHEMICAL *BLAST*!"

"BUT, ALTHOUGH IT MIGHT HAVE SOLVED EVERY-THING, I COULDN'T LET HIM BE BURNED TO DEATH IN THE ENSUING FIRE..."

HE'S STILL *BREATHING*. I GOT HIM OUT JUST IN TIME!

BUT, HOW CAN I PRE-VENT HIM FROM BETRAY-ING MY *SECRET* AFTER I'VE TURNED HIM OVER TO THE *POLICE*?

HE'S STARTING TO *SPEAK*... MUMBLING A *NAME*...

HARRY... MY SON... HARRY.

YOU'RE NOT MY BOY. WHERE IS *HARRY*? WHO ARE YOU?

HE DOESN'T *RECOGNIZE* ME! HIS *MEMORY'S* GONE! THE *SHOCK* HAS AFFECTED HIS *MIND*!

THERE'S STILL *HOPE* FOR ME...AND EVEN FOR HIM.

HE DOESN'T EVEN REMEMBER BEING THE *GREEN GOBLIN*.

SO I'LL MAKE IT LOOK AS THOUGH THE *GOBLIN* *PERISHED*... IN THE *FIRE*.

TO ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES HE IS *DEAD*, ANYWAY.

GET OSBORN TO A *DOCTOR*! HE HELPED ME TO FINISH OFF THE *GREEN GOBLIN*.

NO ONE WILL HAVE REASON TO *DOUBT* MY *STORY*.

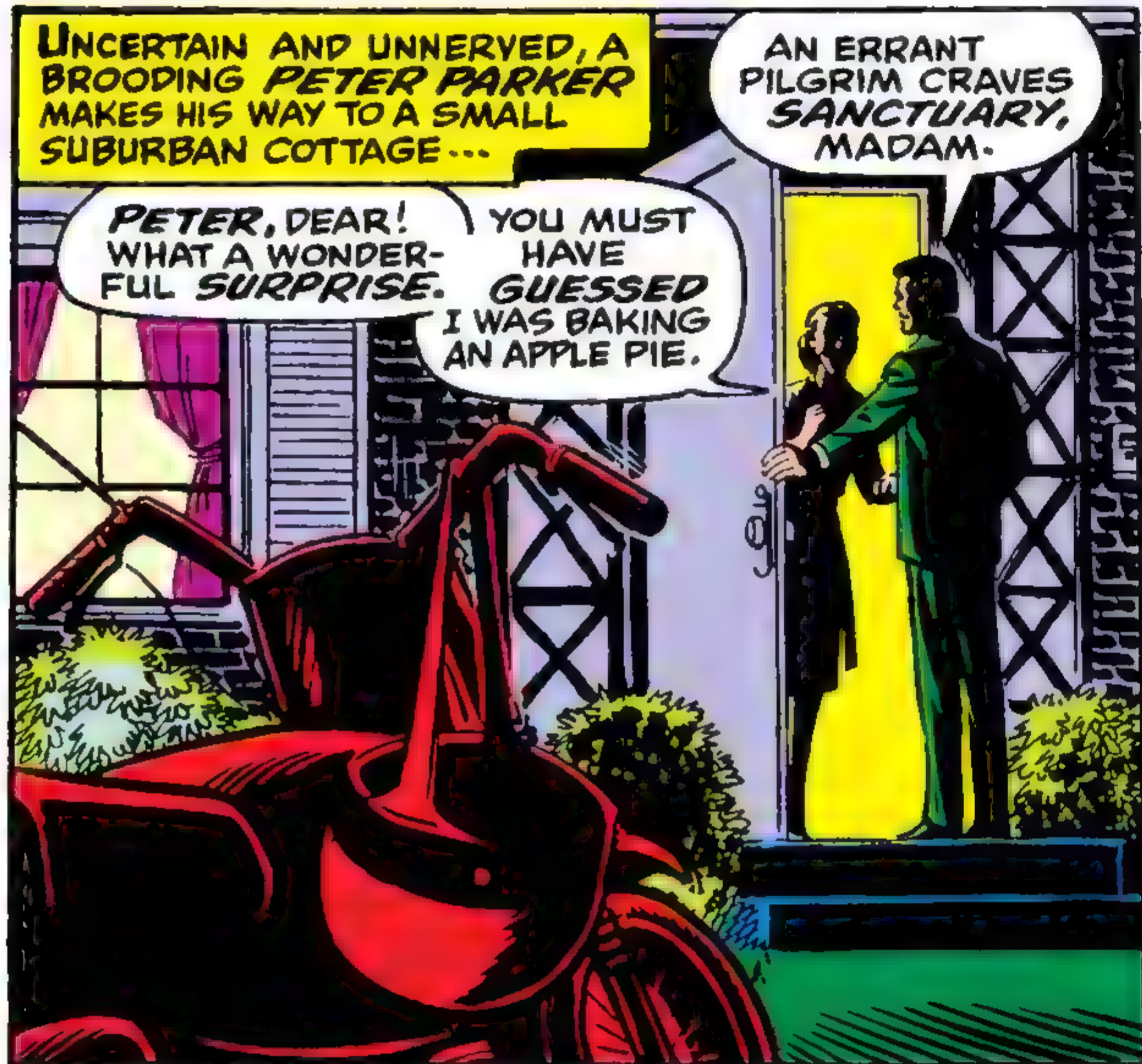
"NORMAN OSBORN *RECOVERED*, NEVER REMEMBERING WHAT HAD REALLY HAPPENED, WHILE I LIVED WITH A SENSE OF FALSE SECURITY...UNTIL *NOW*..."

IF OSBORN'S MEMORY *DOES* RETURN...

IF THE *ILLNESS* THAT CAUSED HIM TO BECOME THE *GOBLIN* IS *RECURRING* ONCE MORE...

HOW CAN I SPARE *AUNT MAY* FROM THE TERRIBLE *SHOCK* OF LEARN-ING THE *TRUTH* ABOUT ME?

...A *SHOCK* THAT MIGHT BE *MORE* THAN HER WEAKENED *HEART* CAN POSSIBLY *SURVIVE*!

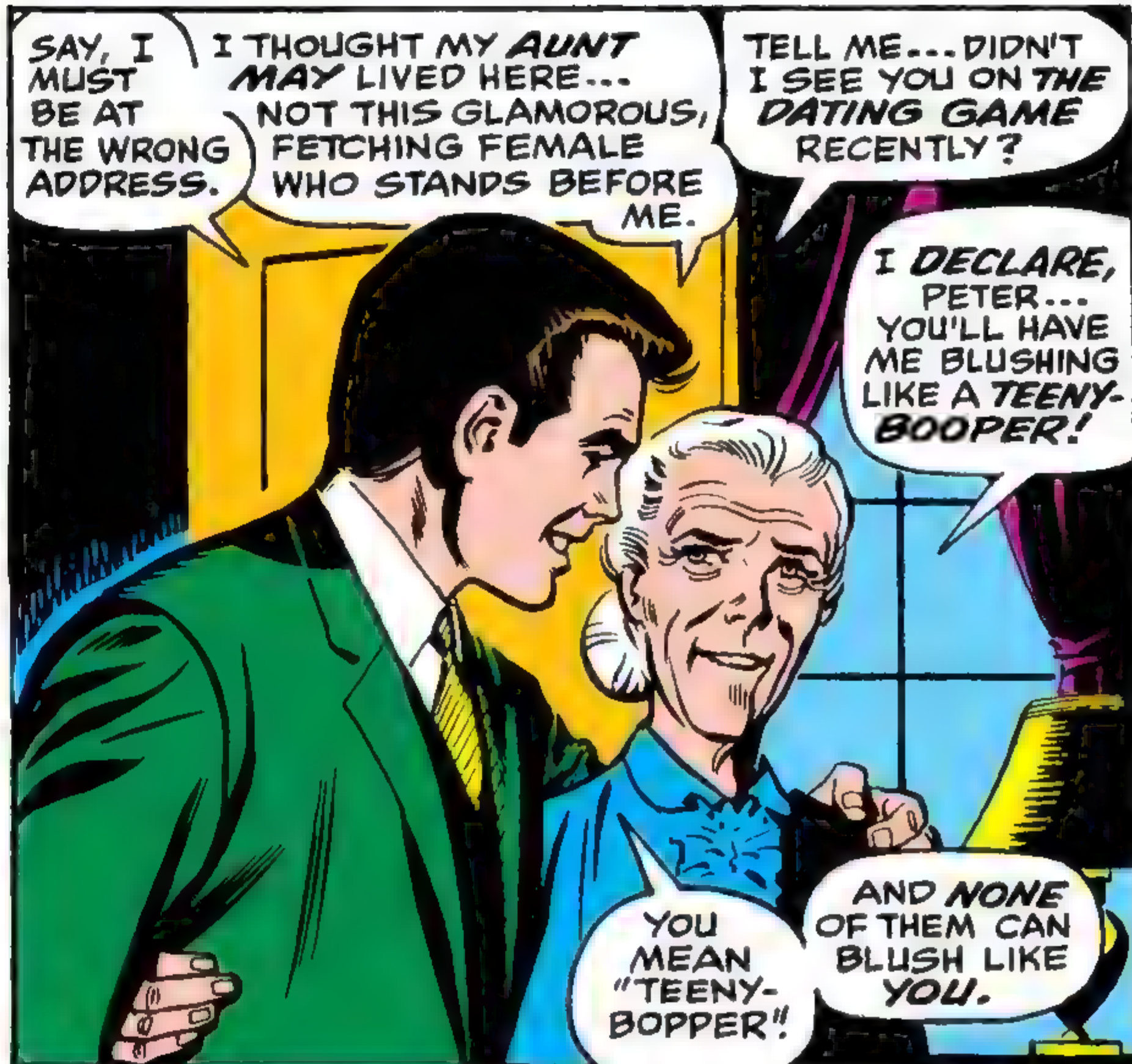


UNCERTAIN AND UNNERVED, A BROODING **PETER PARKER** MAKES HIS WAY TO A SMALL SUBURBAN COTTAGE...

AN ERRANT PILGRIM CRAVES **SANCTUARY**, MADAM.

PETER, DEAR! WHAT A WONDERFUL SURPRISE.

YOU MUST HAVE GUESSED I WAS BAKING AN APPLE PIE.



SAY, I MUST BE AT THE WRONG ADDRESS.

I THOUGHT MY **AUNT MAY** LIVED HERE... NOT THIS GLAMOROUS, FETCHING FEMALE WHO STANDS BEFORE ME.

TELL ME... DIDN'T I SEE YOU ON THE **DATING GAME** RECENTLY?

I DECLARE, PETER... YOU'LL HAVE ME BLUSHING LIKE A **TEENY-BOOPER!**

YOU MEAN "TEENY-BOOPER!"

AND NONE OF THEM CAN BLUSH LIKE YOU.



JUST LIKE I ALWAYS TELL DR. BROMWELL...

A VISIT FROM YOU IS BETTER THAN ALL THE TONIC IN THE WORLD.

YOU MAKE ME FEEL LIKE A REGULAR **PUSSYWILLOW**.

THAT'S **PUSSYCAT**, AUNT MAY.

ALL THESE YEARS... SHE'S BEEN LIKE A MOTHER TO ME...



I CAN'T LET HER LEARN MY SECRET! THERE MUST BE SOME WAY TO SPARE HER THE PAIN.

AND YET... IF THE GREEN GOBLIN SHOULD RETURN...

I'M ALMOST AFRAID TO THINK OF IT.



BUT PROBLEMS, ALAS, WILL SELDOM FADE AWAY JUST FOR THE LACK OF THINKING!

AS A CASE IN POINT, LET'S VISIT A PRIVATE HOSPITAL ROOM, WHERE AN AWESOME AFFLICTION IS RETURNING TO ITS TORTURED PATIENT...

IT'S HAPPENING AGAIN... AND I CAN'T STOP IT!

THE GOBLIN... SPIDER-MAN... SPINNING ROUND IN MY BRAIN... OVER AND OVER...



IT'S LIKE A FOG
BEGINNING TO LIFT
... SLOWLY ...
INEXORABLY ...

DESPITE THE ACHE...
DESPITE THE PAIN... MY
HEAD IS CLEARING... IT'S
ALL COMING BACK TO
ME NOW...



AT
LAST... I
KNOW!



THE
GREEN
GOBLIN
ISN'T
DEAD! HE
NEVER
DIED!

I AM
THE
GOBLIN!



MOMENTS LATER, IN ONE OF THE MOST SORDID *SLUM* AREAS WHICH INFEST THE SAVAGE, SPRAWLING CITY...

SOMETHING IS *PULLING* ME... LEADING ME ON.

SOME DIM, HALF-FORGOTTEN *MEMORY* FROM THE PAST...FROM THE *GOBLIN'S* PAST.

I'VE BEEN HERE MANY TIMES *BEFORE*... I KNOW IT.

JUST AS I KNOW WHICH *TURN* TO TAKE...WHICH *HALL-WAY* TO ENTER...

CLOSED

--AND, WHICH *DOOR* TO OPEN!

JUST AS I NOW KNOW I'VE FOUND ONE OF MY MANY HIDDEN *HIDEOUTS*...

RULES

...CONTAINING ALL THAT IS NEEDED FOR THE *GREEN GOBLIN* TO LIVE ONCE MORE!





YES, REVENGE...
UPON THE WALL-CRAWLING
SPIDER-MAN!

...THE MOST
EXCRUCIATING
REVENGE THE WORLD
WILL EVER KNOW!



WHOA THERE,
LONE STRANGER.
WAIT UP FOR
TONTTO!

OH...
HI,
GWEN.

HAVE YOU
SEEN
HARRY?



I'M AFRAID THAT LITTLE PLEASURE WILL
BE **DENIED** US, YOUNG MAN.

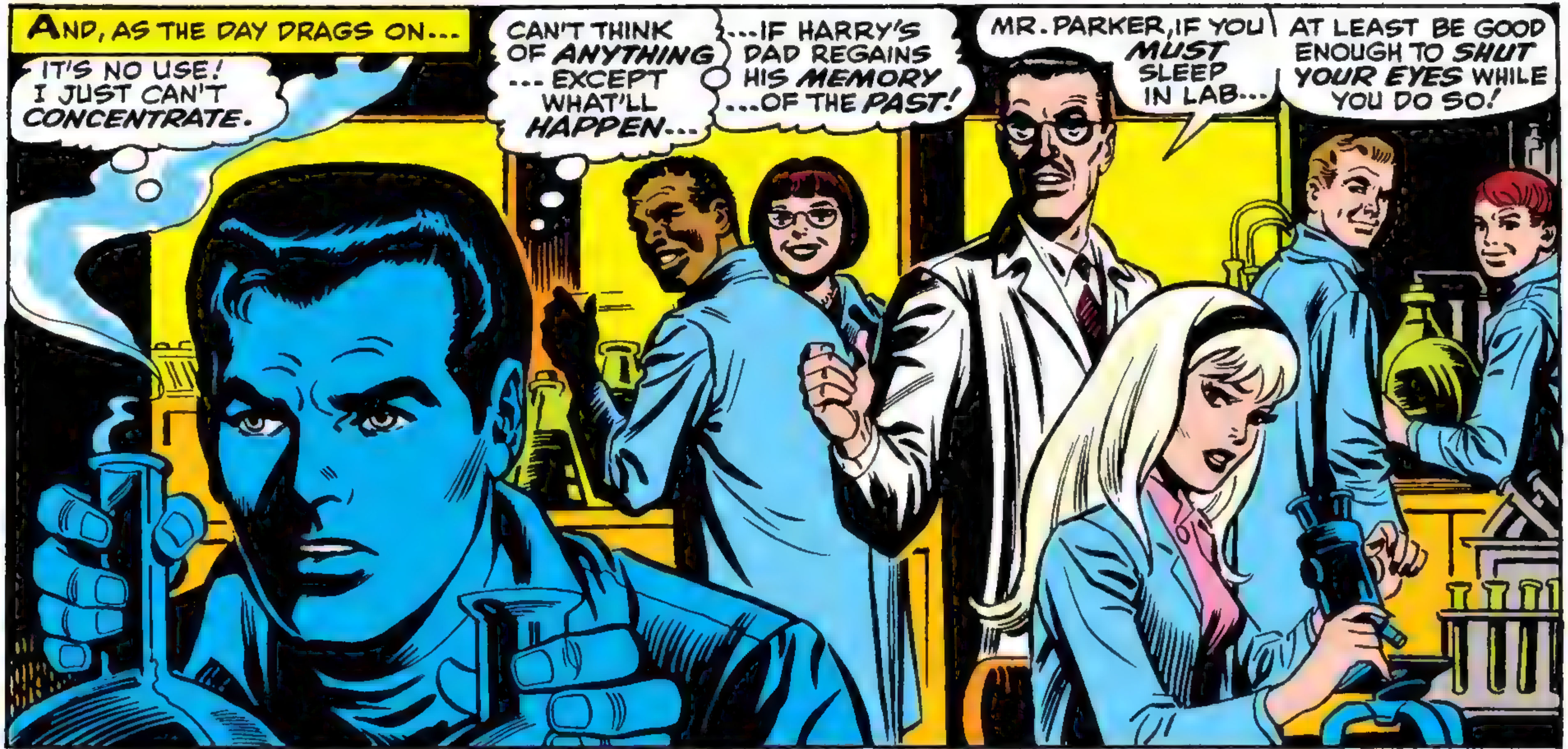
HE'S STAYING WITH
HIS DAD UNTIL MR.
OSBORN IS BACK TO
NORMAL AGAIN!

THEN...IT **IS**
AS SERIOUS...
AS I FEARED.

PETER PARKER!
YOU'RE TAKING IT
HARDER THAN
HARRY HIMSELF!

I HEARD IT
WAS JUST A
CASE OF OVER-
WORK.

I SURE HOPE
YOU'RE **RIGHT**,
PRETTY GIRL.



AND, AS THE DAY DRAGS ON...

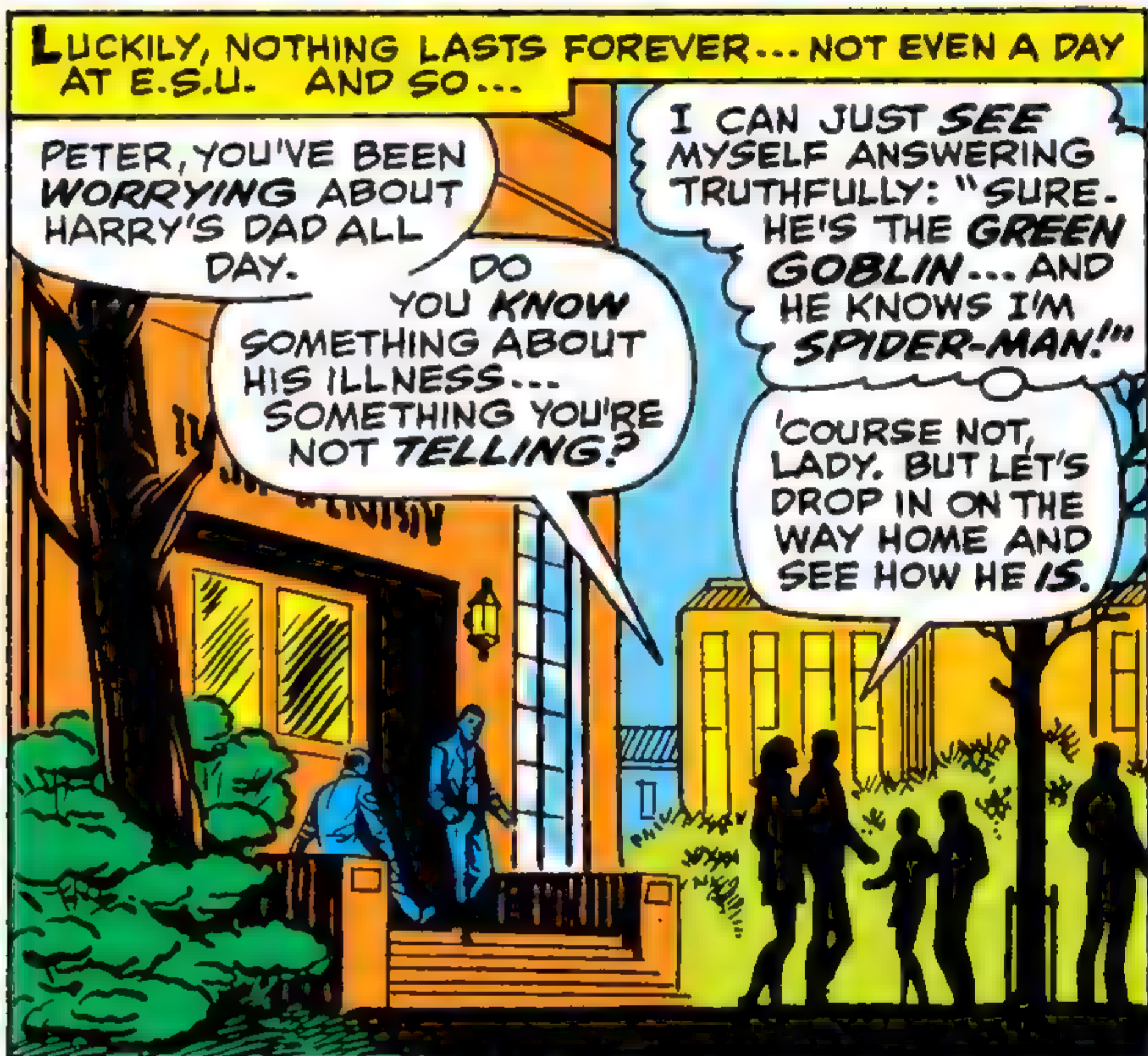
IT'S NO USE!
I JUST CAN'T
CONCENTRATE.

CAN'T THINK
OF ANYTHING
... EXCEPT
WHAT'LL
HAPPEN...

...IF HARRY'S
DAD REGAINS
HIS MEMORY
...OF THE PAST!

MR. PARKER, IF YOU
MUST
SLEEP
IN LAB...

AT LEAST BE GOOD
ENOUGH TO SHUT
YOUR EYES WHILE
YOU DO SO!



LUCKILY, NOTHING LASTS FOREVER... NOT EVEN A DAY
AT E.S.U. AND SO...

PETER, YOU'VE BEEN
WORRYING ABOUT
HARRY'S DAD ALL
DAY.

DO
YOU KNOW
SOMETHING ABOUT
HIS ILLNESS...
SOMETHING YOU'RE
NOT TELLING?

I CAN JUST SEE
MYSELF ANSWERING
TRUTHFULLY: "SURE.
HE'S THE GREEN
GOBLIN... AND
HE KNOWS I'M
SPIDER-MAN!"

'COURSE NOT,
LADY. BUT LET'S
DROP IN ON THE
WAY HOME AND
SEE HOW HE IS.



GWEN! PETE! HAVE YOU
HEARD ANYTHING... ABOUT
MY DAD?

THEN I WAS RIGHT.
IT'S AS SERIOUS AS
I FEARED!

HEARD ANYTHING?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN,
HARRY?

TELL US
HOW IT
HAPPENED,
HARRY.

DIDN'T YOU
KNOW? HE
RAN AWAY
FROM THE
HOSPITAL!
HE'S GONE...
VANISHED!

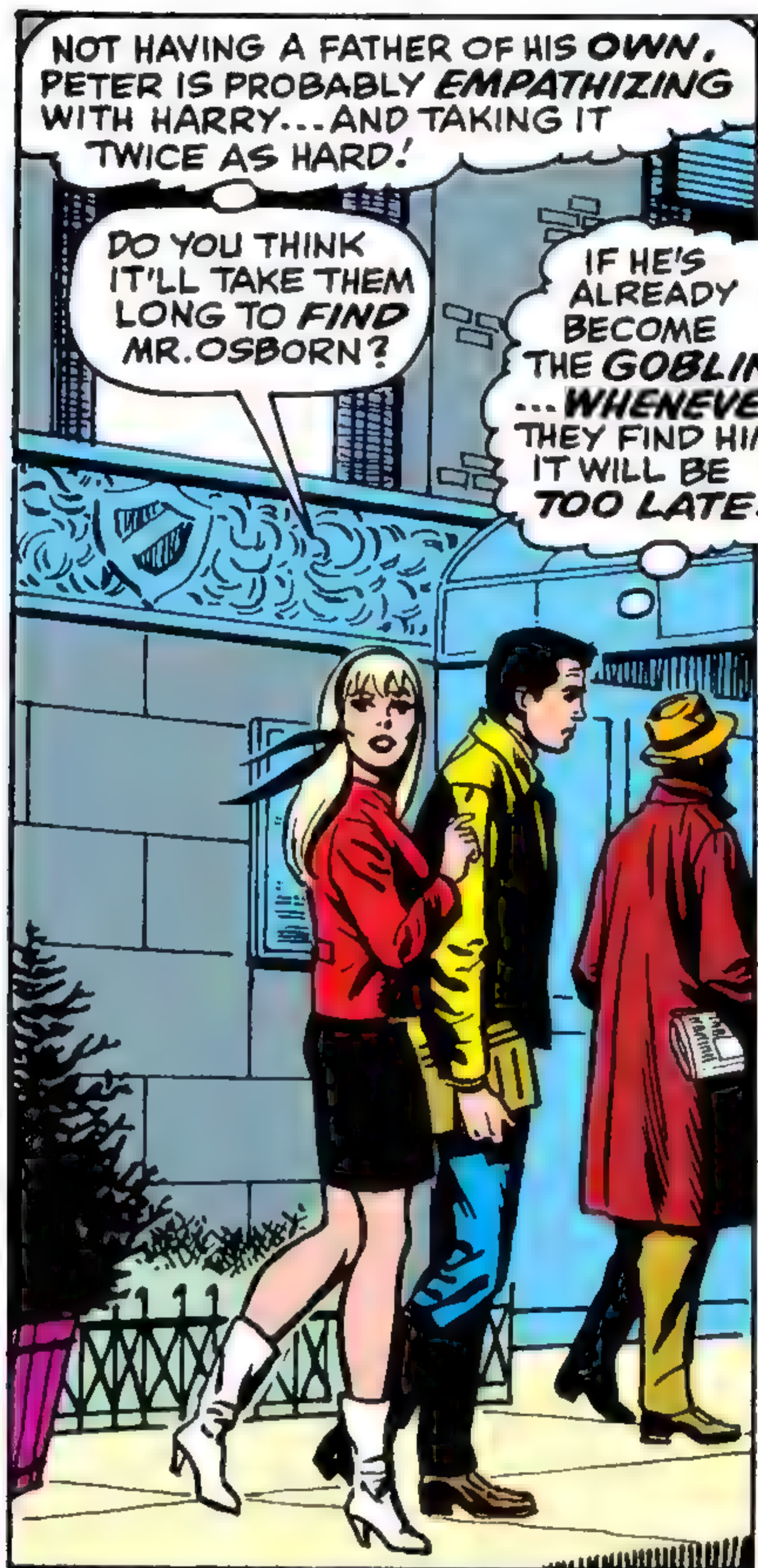


IT WAS AS THOUGH HE'D GONE **BERSERK!**
HE RAN OUT OF THE BUILDING... SHOUTING
LIKE A **MADMAN**... PUSHING PEOPLE
ASIDE LIKE TENPINS! HIS
**STRENGTH... SEEMED
UNBELIEVABLE!**

IF ONLY I **KNEW**...
WHAT'S HAPPENING
TO HIM...!

POOR **PETER**...
HE LOOKS LIKE
HE'S SEEN A
GHOST!

THERE'S NO
LONGER ANY
DOUBT! HE'S
REVERTED TO
WHAT HE **WAS!**



NOT HAVING A FATHER OF HIS OWN, PETER IS PROBABLY *EMPATHIZING* WITH HARRY...AND TAKING IT TWICE AS HARD!

DO YOU THINK IT'LL TAKE THEM LONG TO *FIND* MR.OSBORN?

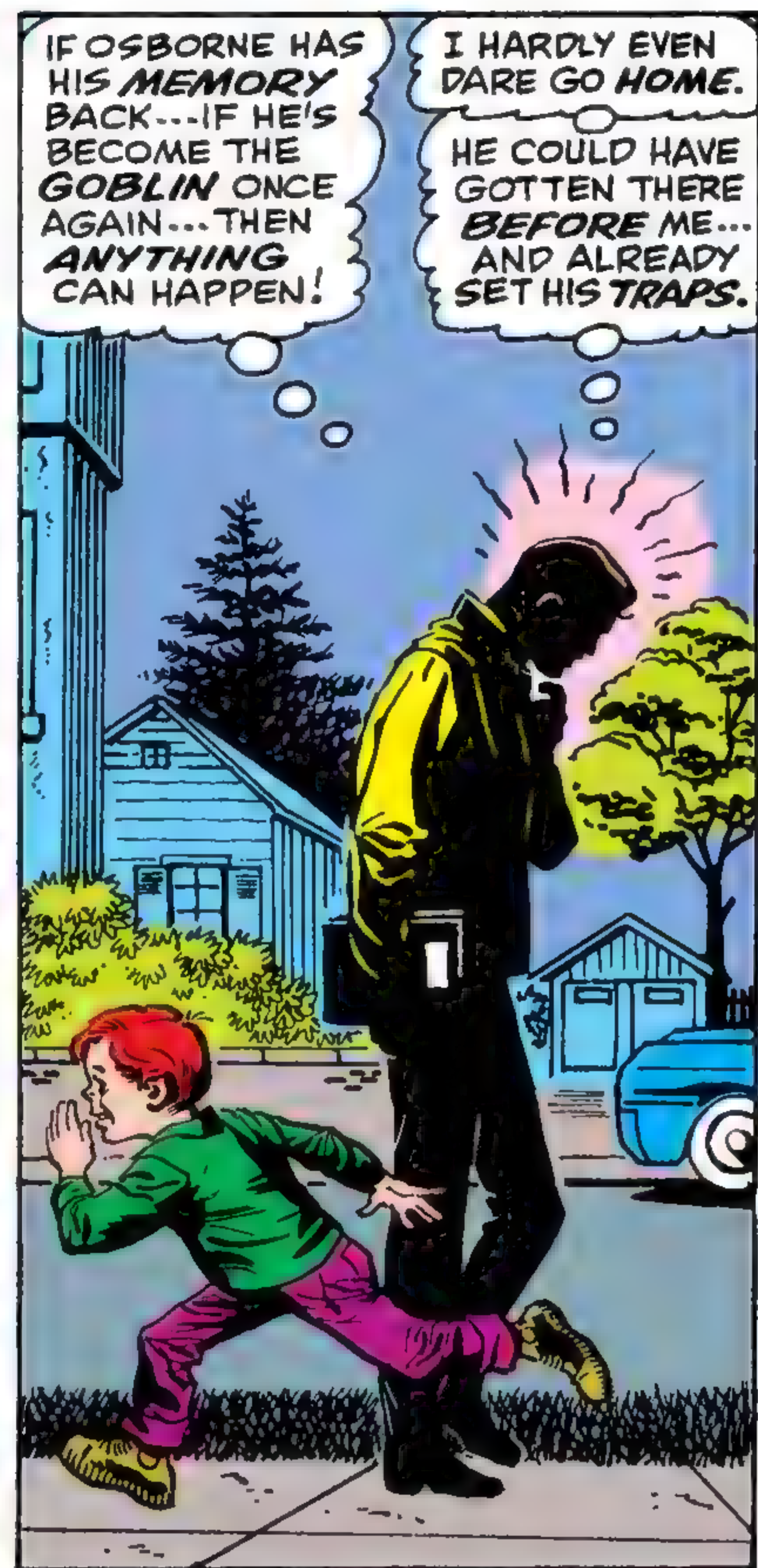
IF HE'S ALREADY BECOME THE *GOBLIN*...*WHENEVER* THEY FIND HIM...IT WILL BE *TOO LATE!*



IT'S STILL *EARLY*, PETER. IF YOU'D LIKE SOME COFFEE..?

NOT TONIGHT, THANKS, GWEN!
I'VE GOT TO GET *BACK*. I HAVE SOME *UNFINISHED BUSINESS* TO TAKE CARE OF!

LIKE FIGURING OUT HOW TO *SAVE* MY SECRET IDENTITY...AND MY *LIFE!*



IF OSBORNE HAS HIS *MEMORY* BACK...IF HE'S BECOME THE *GOBLIN* ONCE AGAIN...THEN *ANYTHING* CAN HAPPEN!

I HARDLY EVEN DARE GO HOME. HE COULD HAVE GOTTEN THERE *BEFORE* ME...AND ALREADY SET HIS *TRAPS*.



HE WAS THE ONLY ONE ALIVE WHO KNEW THAT PETER PARKER IS *SPIDER-MAN!*

THAT MEANS HE'S THE ONLY ONE I CAN NEVER *HIDE* FROM!

NO MATTER WHERE I *GO*...WHAT I *DO*...I'LL ALWAYS...*WHA..?!!*

SOMETHING *HIT* ME!



IT'S THE *GOBLIN*, LAUNCHING A NEW *ATTACK* BEFORE I CAN...*NO!*

IT'S JUST A CHILD'S *TOY AIR-PLANE!*

HEY, MISTER..HOW'D YOU *DO* THAT?



EVEN IN *SLEEP*, THE TORTURED YOUTH FINDS NO ESCAPE FROM THE FEAR AND APPREHENSION THAT GRIP HIS SOUL...

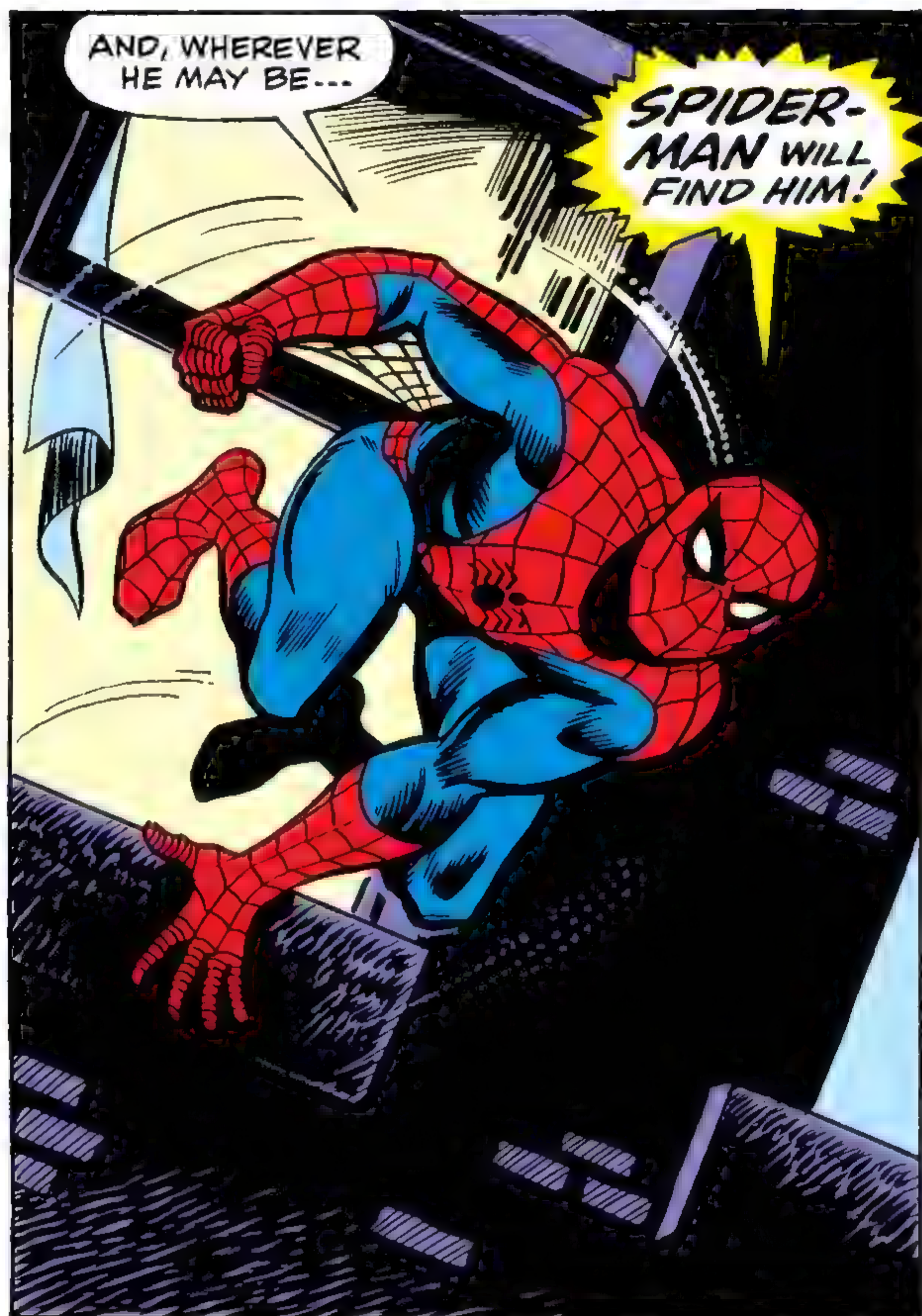


NO, AUNT MAY... NO! DON'T LOOK! YOU MUSTN'T SEE ME... YOU MUST NEVER KNOW WHO I REALLY AM!

YOU *KNOW* HOW THE DOCTOR WARNED US OF YOUR WEAK *HEART*! YOU MUSTN'T HAVE ANY *SHOCKS*... ANYTHING TO *STARTLE* YOU!

I *TRIED* TO SPARE YOU THIS... BUT I COULDN'T! I *COULDN'T*!







HE COULD BE ANYWHERE... WAITING FOR ME...

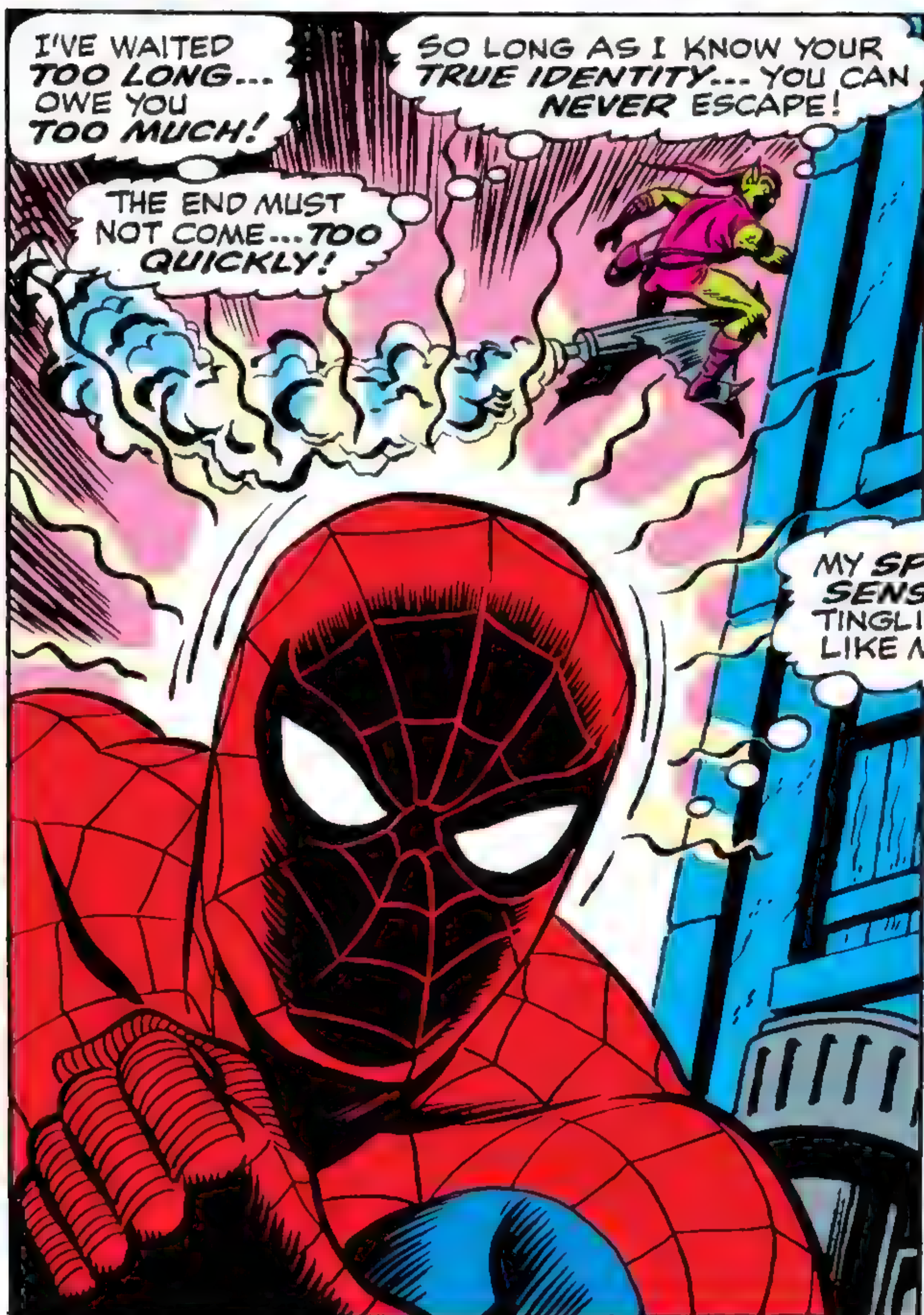
BIDING HIS TIME... LIKE A CAT... STALKING A MOUSE!

BUT THIS IS ONE MOUSE THAT'S GONNA FIGHT BACK!



MOMENTS LATER, AS THE TENSE TEENAGER CONTINUES TO COMB THE SILENT, SPRAWLING SPIRES OF THE SLUMBERING CITY...

NOT YET, SPIDER-MAN! NOT YET!



I'VE WAITED TOO LONG... OWE YOU TOO MUCH!

SO LONG AS I KNOW YOUR TRUE IDENTITY... YOU CAN NEVER ESCAPE!

THE END MUST NOT COME... TOO QUICKLY!

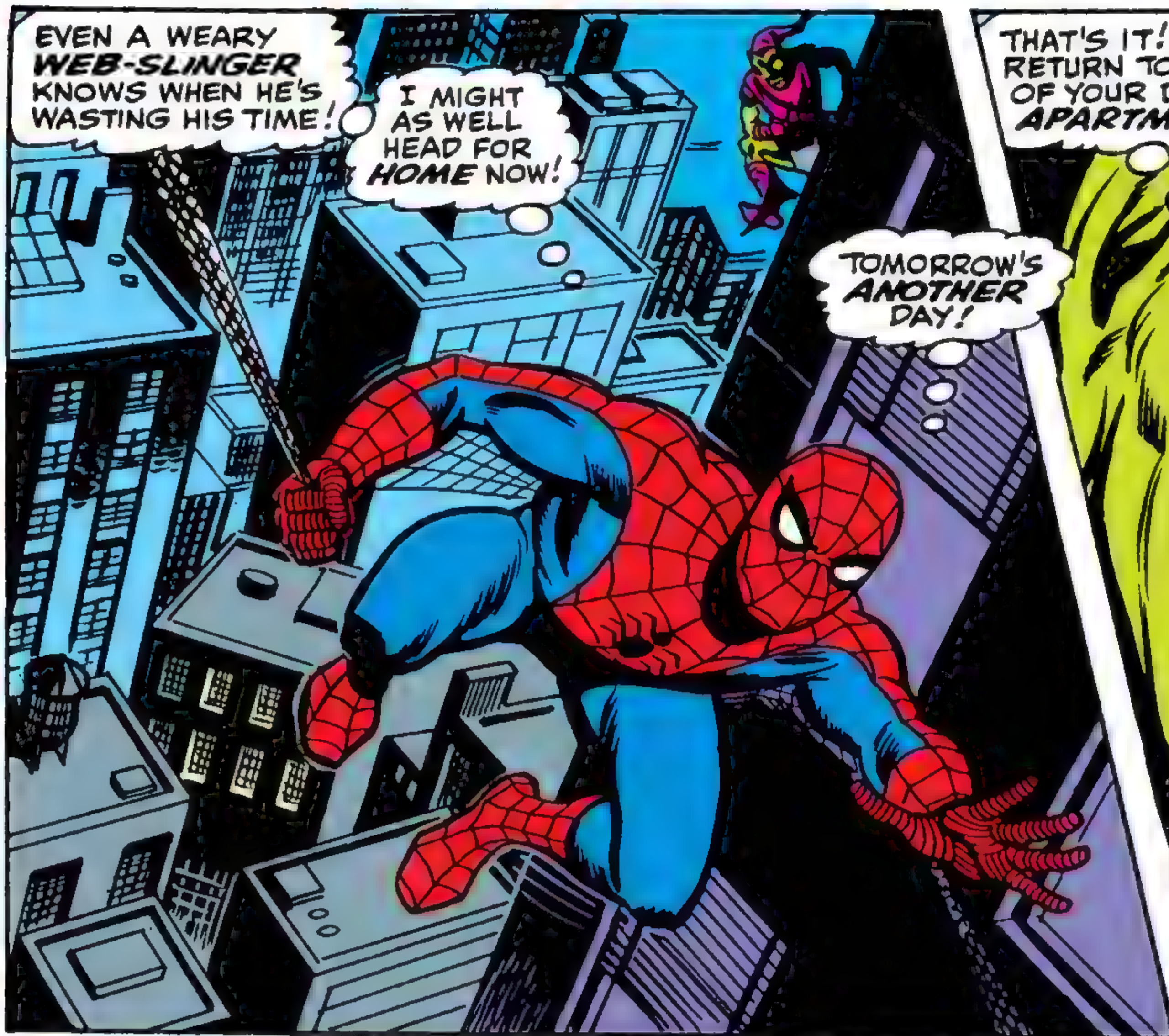
MY SPIDER SENSE... TINGLING LIKE MAD!



NOBODY THERE!

AND THE TINGLING HAS STOPPED!

I'D BETTER ...GET A GRIP ON MYSELF!



EVEN A WEARY **WEB-SLINGER** KNOWS WHEN HE'S WASTING HIS TIME!

I MIGHT AS WELL HEAD FOR HOME NOW!

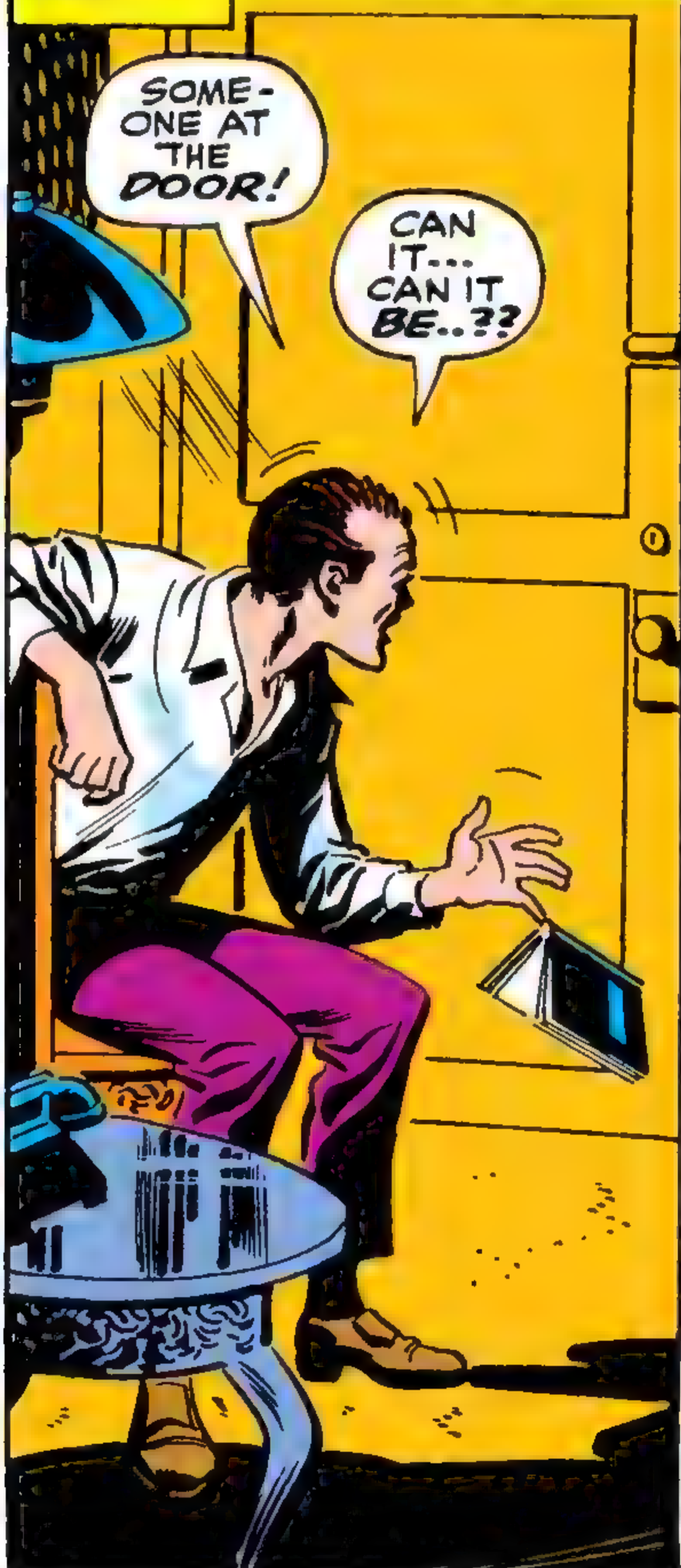
TOMORROW'S ANOTHER DAY!

THAT'S IT! **THAT'S IT!** RETURN TO THE SAFETY OF YOUR DULL APARTMENT!

MY PLANS FOR YOUR **DESTRUCTION** ARE NOW **COMPLETE!**

I ONLY NEED... A FEW HOURS MORE!

LATER, AT THE LUXURIOUS EAST-SIDE APARTMENT OF NORMAN OSBORN, WHERE HIS WORRIED SON, **HARRY**, KEEPS A LONELY VIGIL...



SOME-ONE AT THE DOOR!

CAN IT... CAN IT BE...??



DAD!

LET ME IN, SON!

ARE YOU... ALL RIGHT?

OF COURSE I AM!



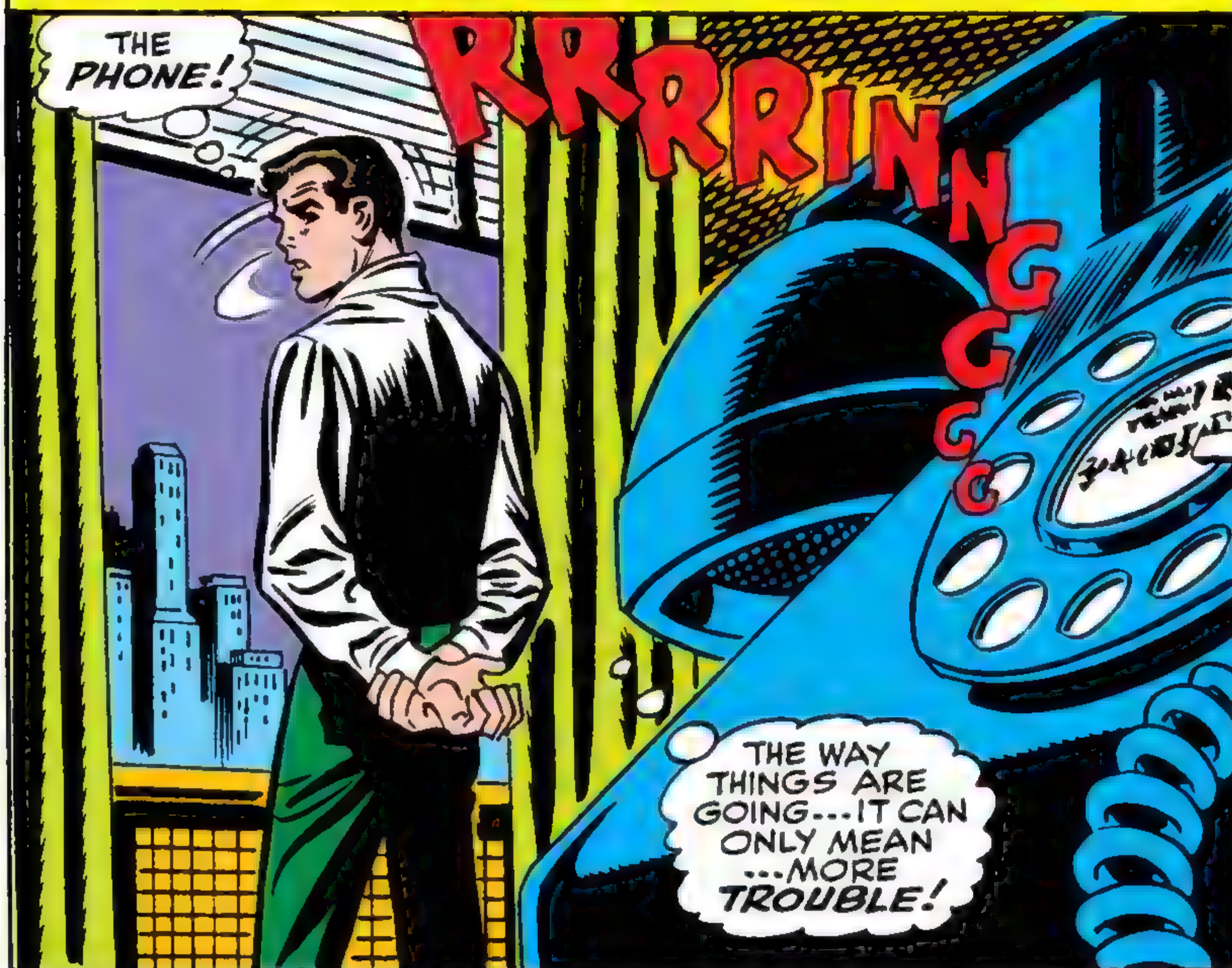
THE FEVER **BROKE...** I CAME BACK TO MY **SENSES!**

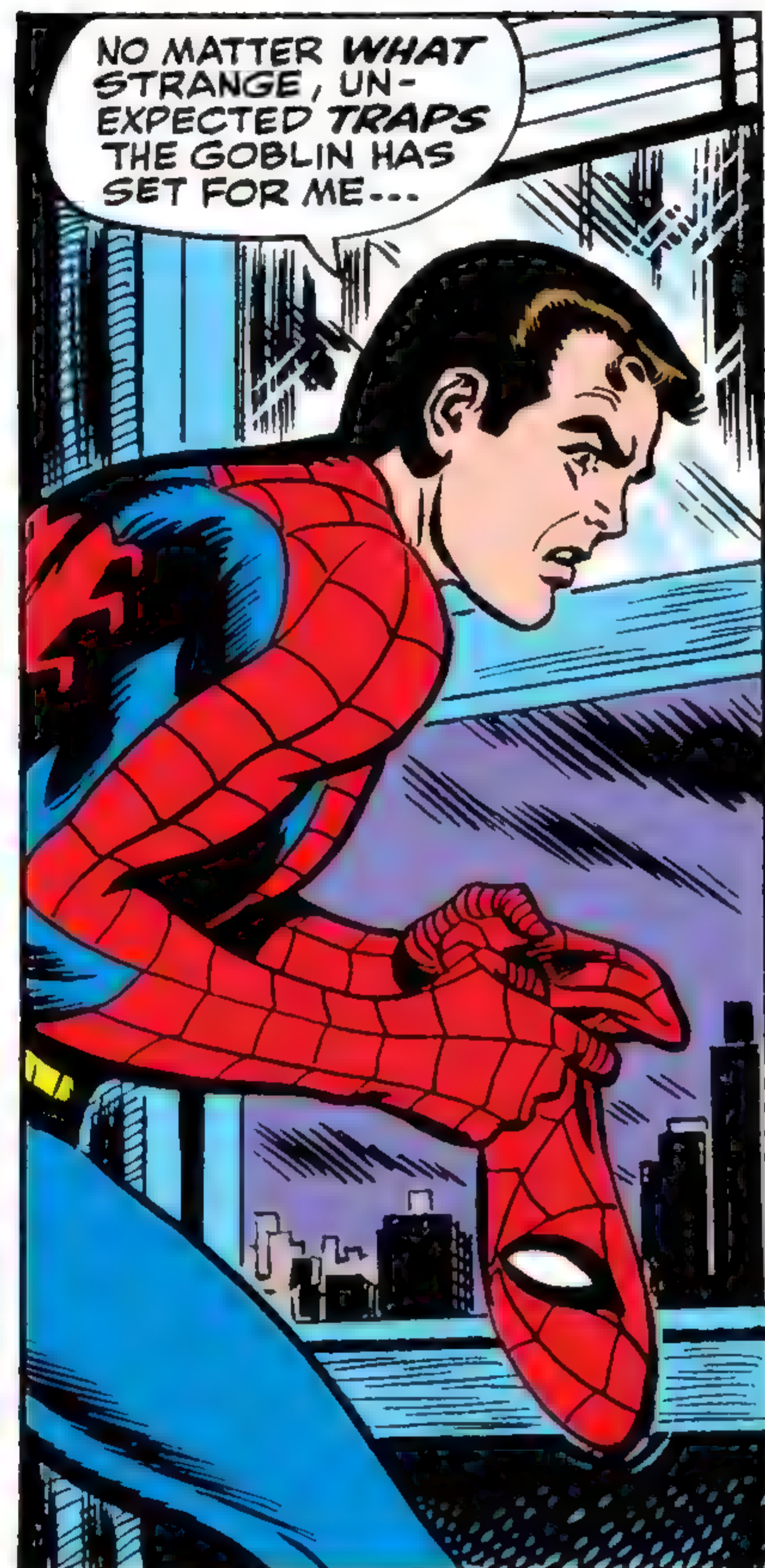
GOSH, DAD... I... I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY..!

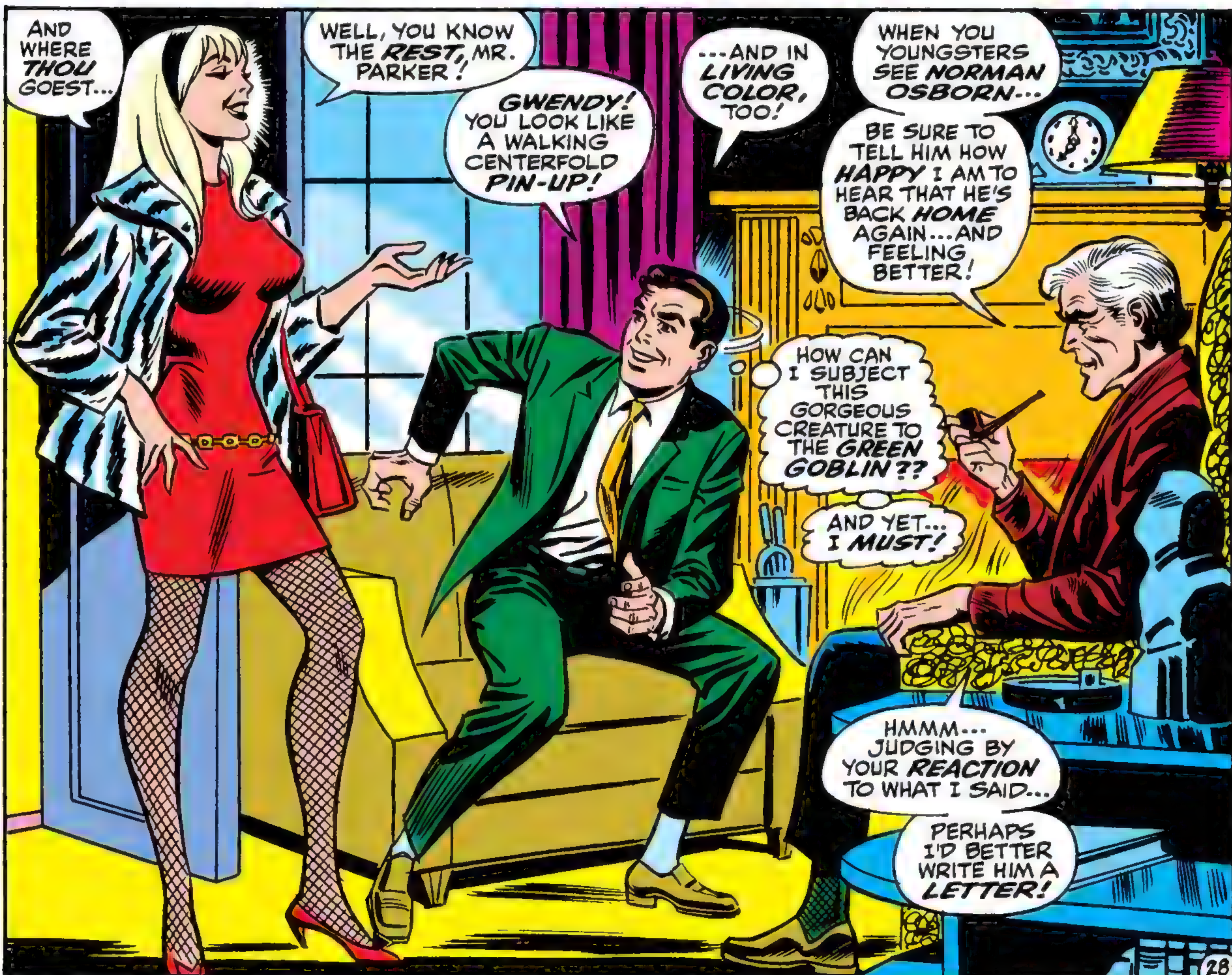
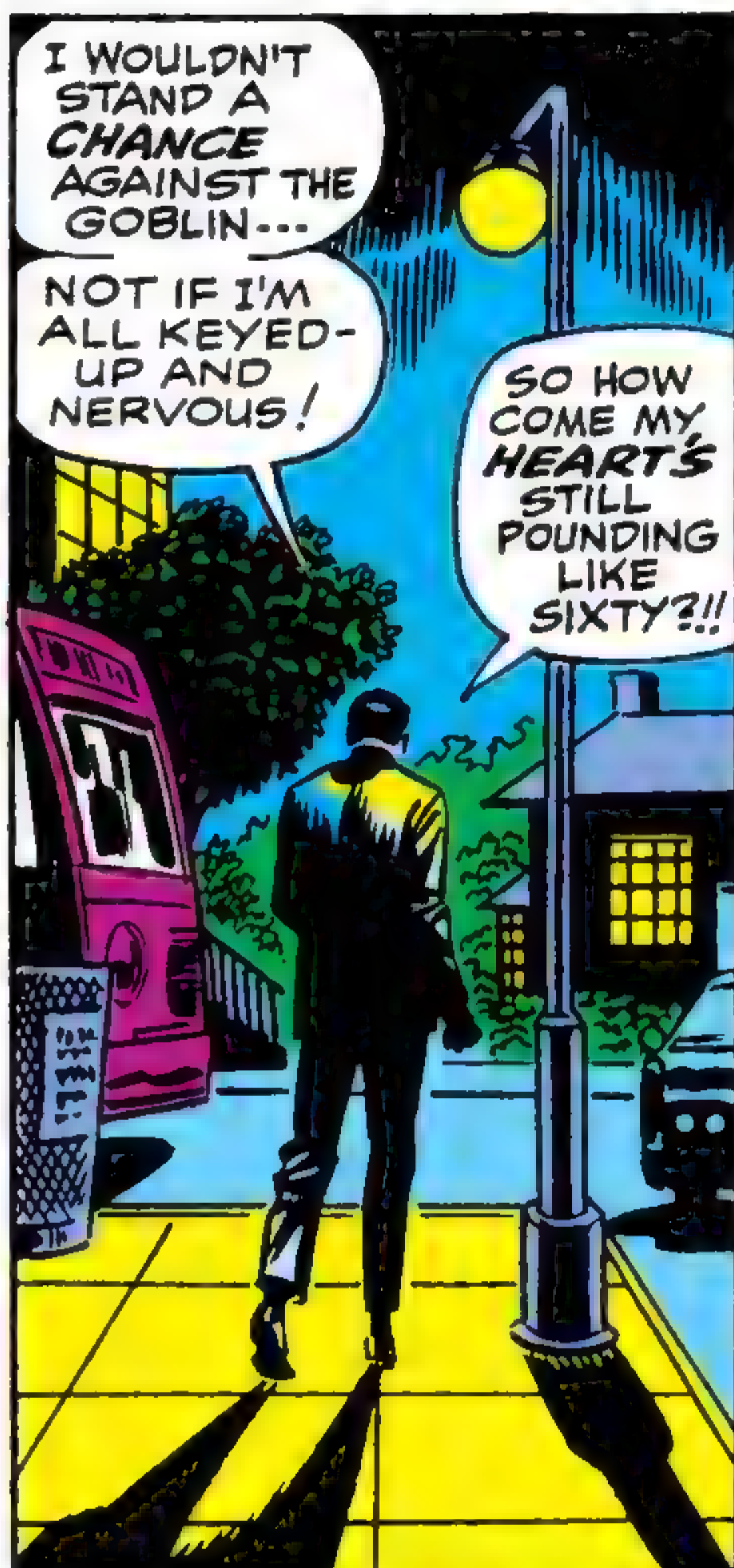
I'LL BE AS GOOD AS **NEW** ...AFTER A LITTLE **REST!**

YOU NEVER DID, YOU **FATUOUS FOOL!**

NOW, THRU THE MAGIC OF OUR IMAGINATIONS... AND THE PRINTED PAGE... LET'S SKIP TO THE VERY NEXT EVENING, WHERE WE FIND...











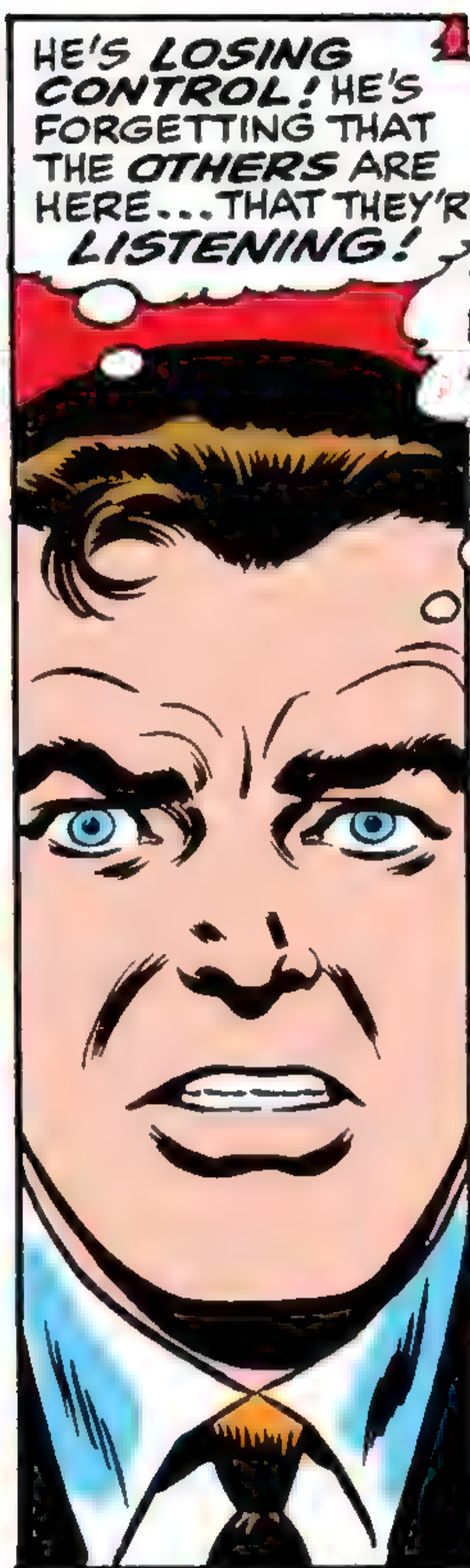


FORGIVE ME FOR **PRYING**, MY BOY!

WE **ALL** HAVE SECRETS WHICH WE **HIDE** FROM THE WORLD!

STRANGE SECRETS ...KNOWN ONLY TO... **OUR-SELVES!**

DON'T YOU **AGREE**, PARKER?



HE'S **LOSING CONTROL!** HE'S FORGETTING THAT THE **OTHERS** ARE HERE... THAT THEY'RE **LISTENING!**

I'VE GOT TO GET THEM TO **SAFETY**... BEFORE IT'S **TOO LATE**... BEFORE HE **CRACKS!**



NOW THAT DINNER IS **ENDED**, LET'S RETIRE TO THE **LIVING ROOM!**

IT'LL GIVE US A CHANCE TO... KNOW EACH OTHER **BETTER!**



YES **INDEED**, PARKER... I'VE BEEN **WANTING** TO KNOW YOU **BETTER!**

I'VE BEEN **WANTING** TO FIND OUT IF YOU'RE ALL THAT **HARRY SAYS** YOU ARE!

HE'S SO CONSUMED WITH **HATRED** FOR ME THAT HE CAN HARDLY **CONTAIN** HIMSELF! EVEN THE **OTHERS** ARE BEGINNING TO **WONDER** ABOUT HIM!

IF I'M **EVER** GOING TO MAKE MY **MOVE**, IT HAS TO BE **NOW!**



'SCUSE ME A MINUTE! I JUST REMEMBERED... I PROMISED TO CALL MY **AUNT MAY!**

NO NEED TO **RUSH**, BOY! WE'LL **BE** HERE... **WAITING** FOR YOU!

YOU CAN **COUNT** ON THAT!

GOOD! I WAS **HOPING** HE WOULDN'T WALK INTO THE **OTHER ROOM** WITH ME!





HE *SUSPECTS* SOMETHING!

I CAN TELL BY HIS *EX-PRESSION*!

CARE TO SAVE ME FROM A *WALL-FLOWER'S* FATE, SIR GALAHAD?



HE'S STANDING AT THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ROOM...WAITING FOR THE *MUSIC* TO STOP!

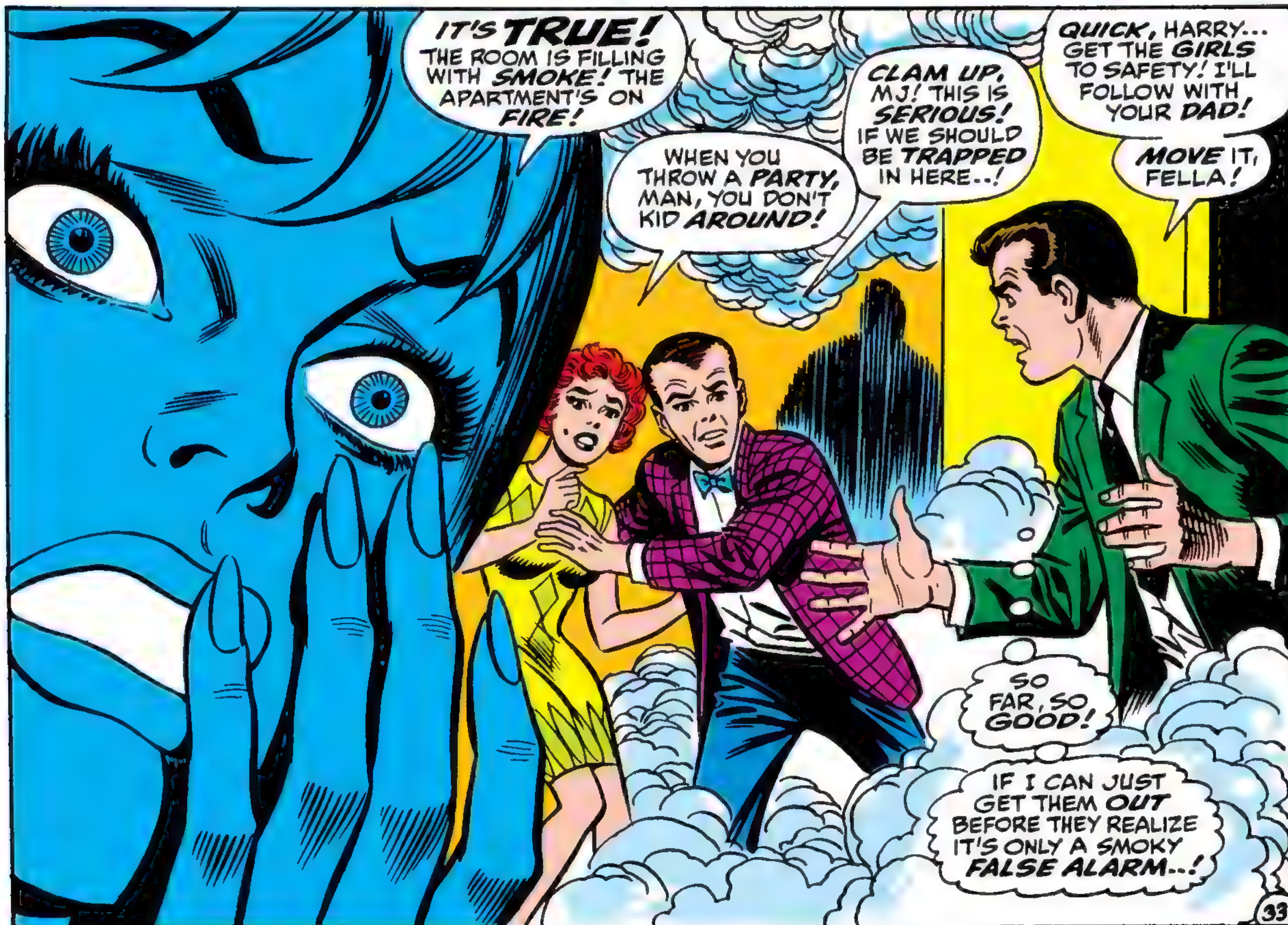
MY EVERY *INSTINCT* TELLS ME HE'S GETTING READY TO *STRIKE*!

BUT WHEN HE *DOES*... IT'S GOT TO BE THE TWO OF US...*ALONE*!

MMMM... YOU DANCE VERY WELL, MR. P... FOR A *STATUE*!

THERE'S THE *SMOKE*...AT LAST!

LOOK! FROM THE NEXT ROOM...*FIRE!!*



IT'S TRUE! THE ROOM IS FILLING WITH *SMOKE*! THE APARTMENT'S ON *FIRE*!

WHEN YOU THROW A *PARTY*, MAN, YOU DON'T KID *AROUND*!

CLAM UP, MJ! THIS IS *SERIOUS*! IF WE SHOULD BE *TRAPPED* IN HERE...!

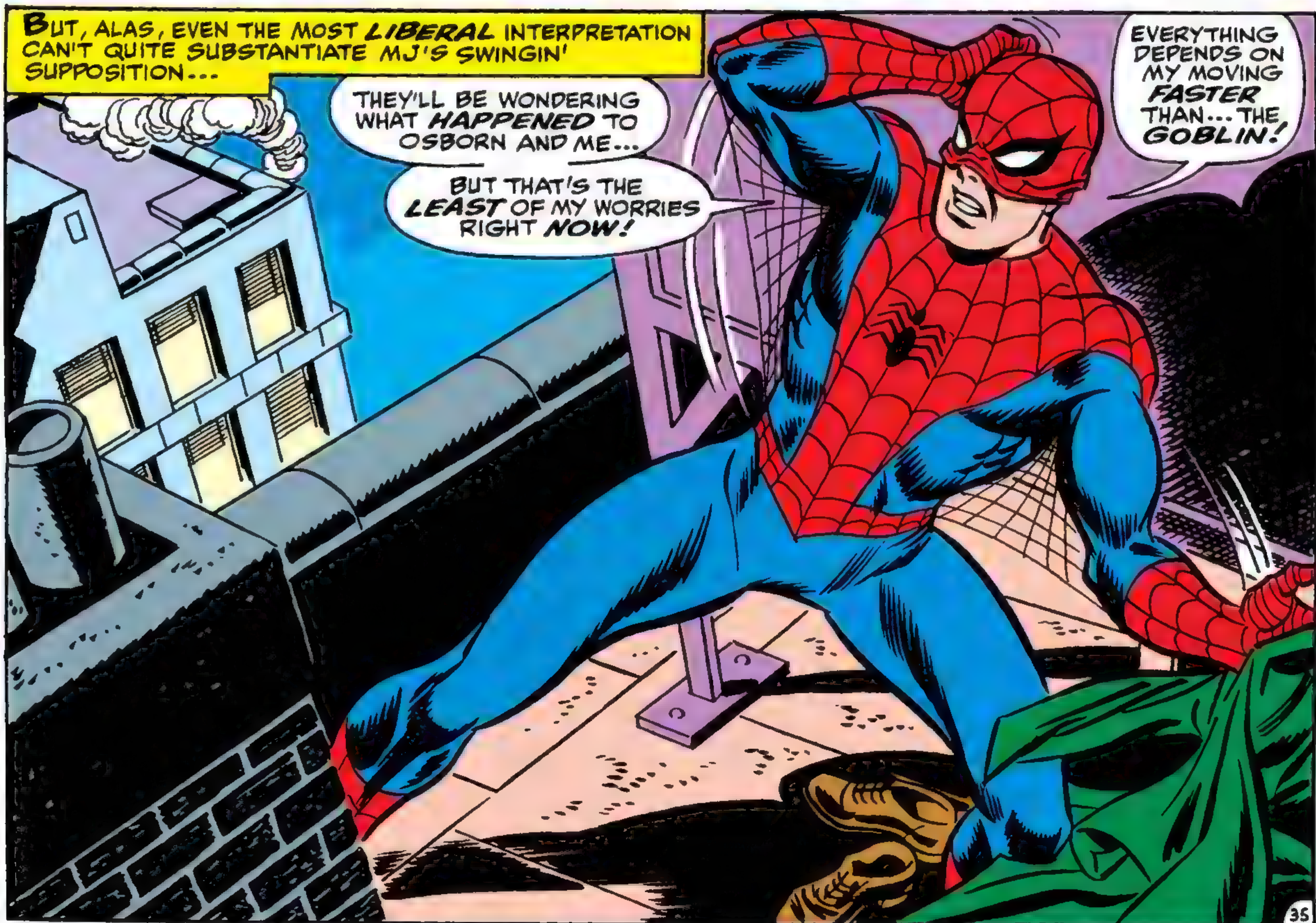
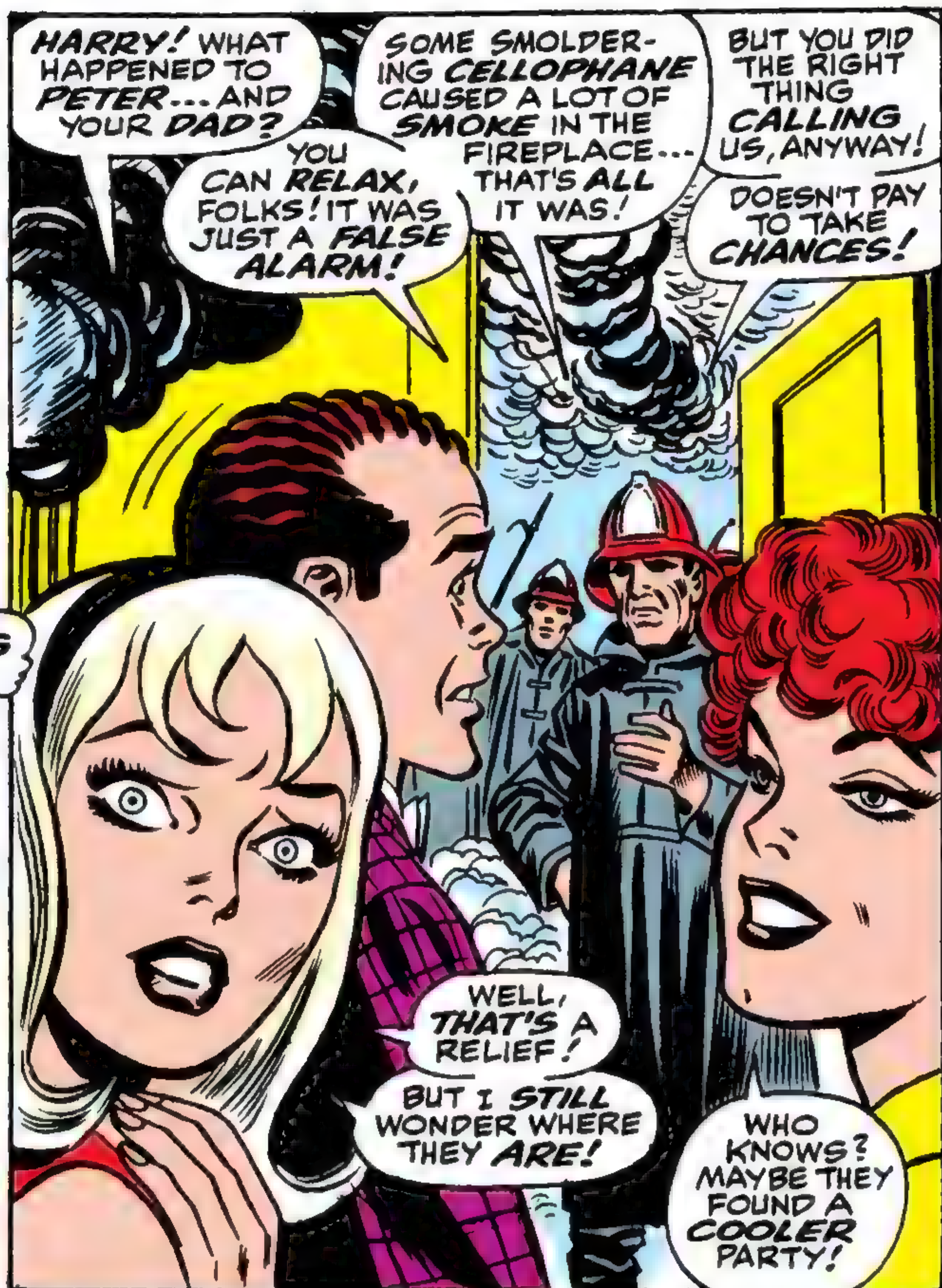
QUICK, HARRY... GET THE *GIRLS* TO SAFETY! I'LL FOLLOW WITH YOUR *DAD*!

MOVE IT, FELLA!

SO FAR, SO *GOOD*!

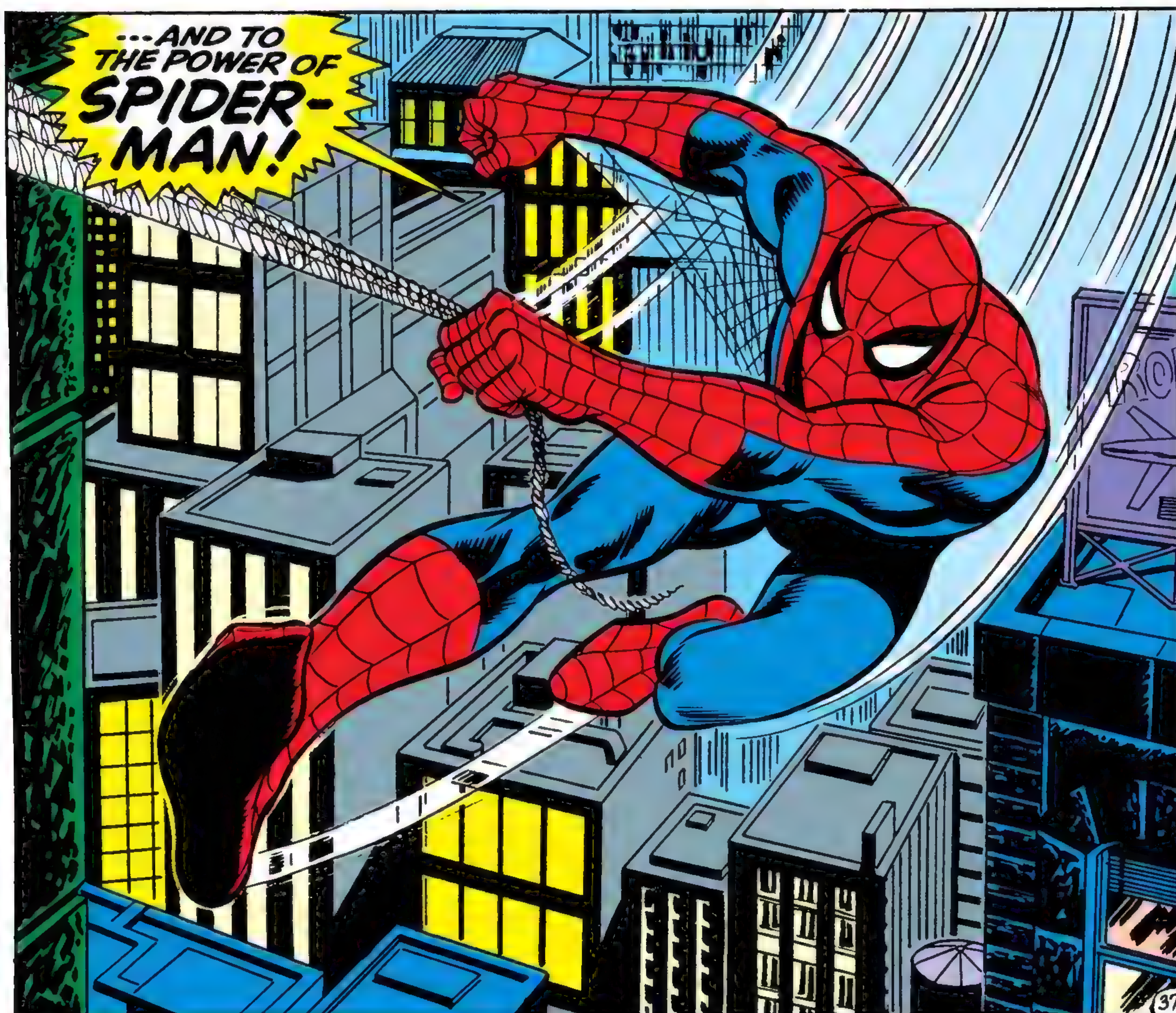
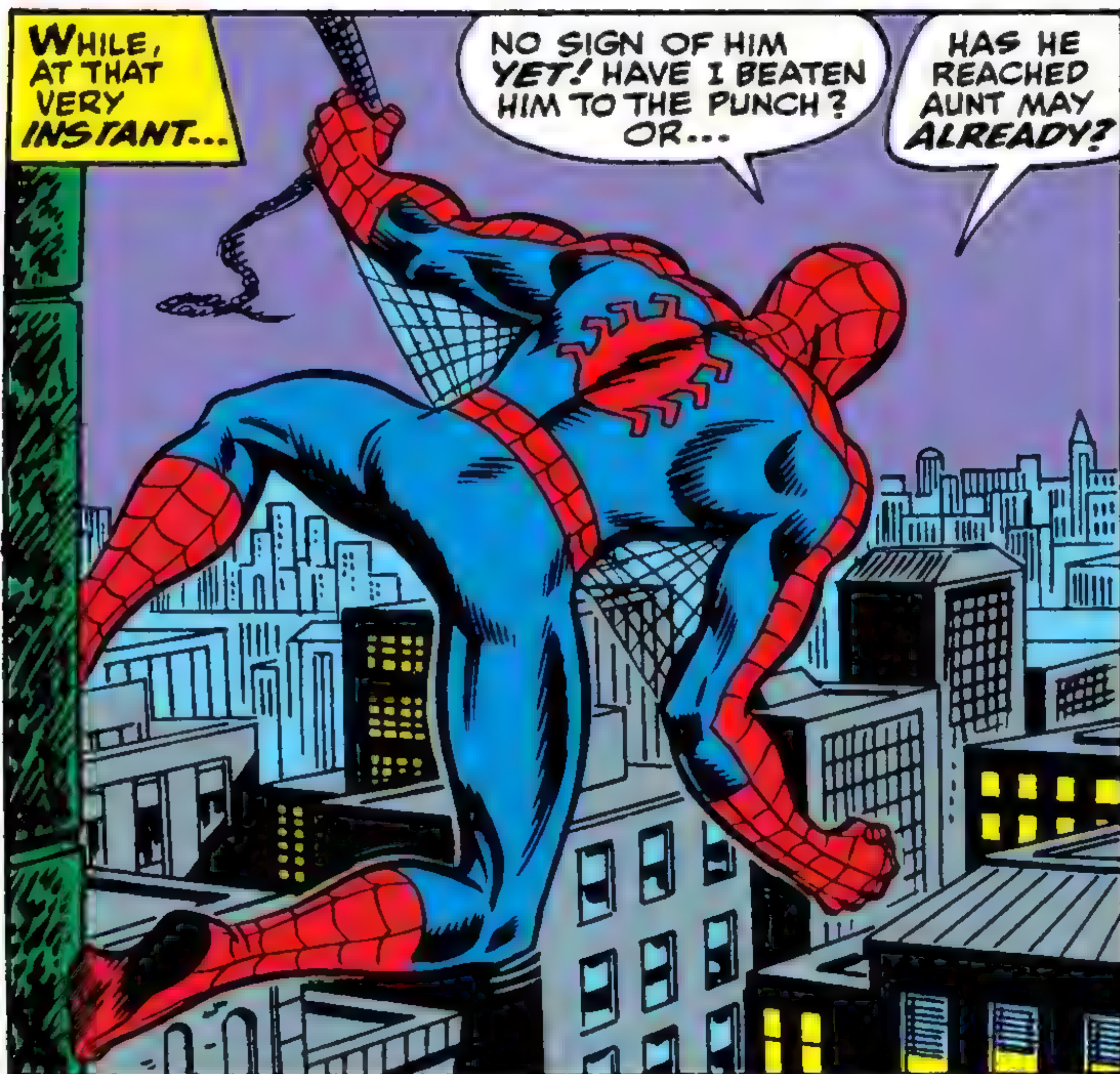
IF I CAN JUST GET THEM *OUT* BEFORE THEY REALIZE IT'S ONLY A *SMOKY FALSE ALARM*...!

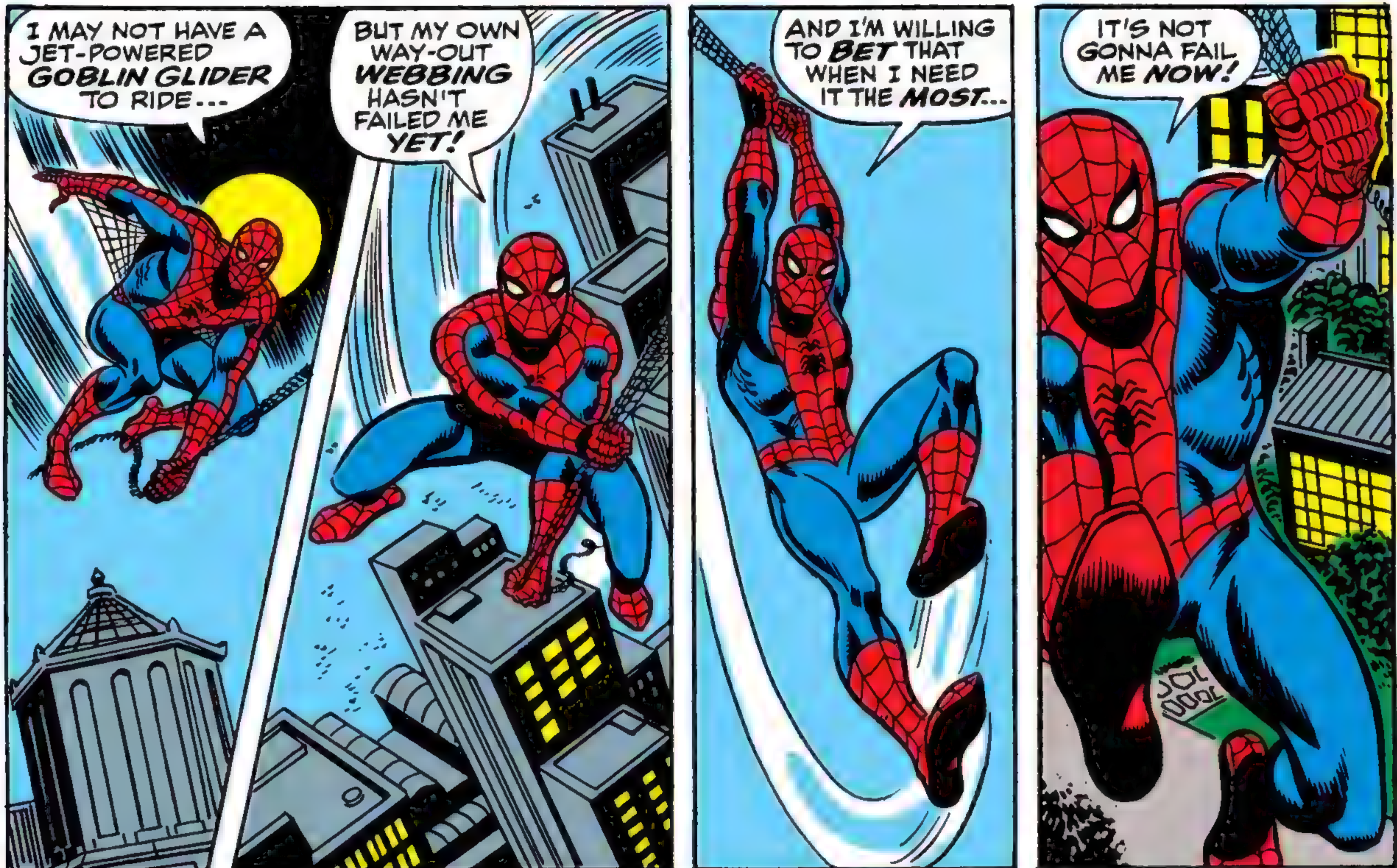


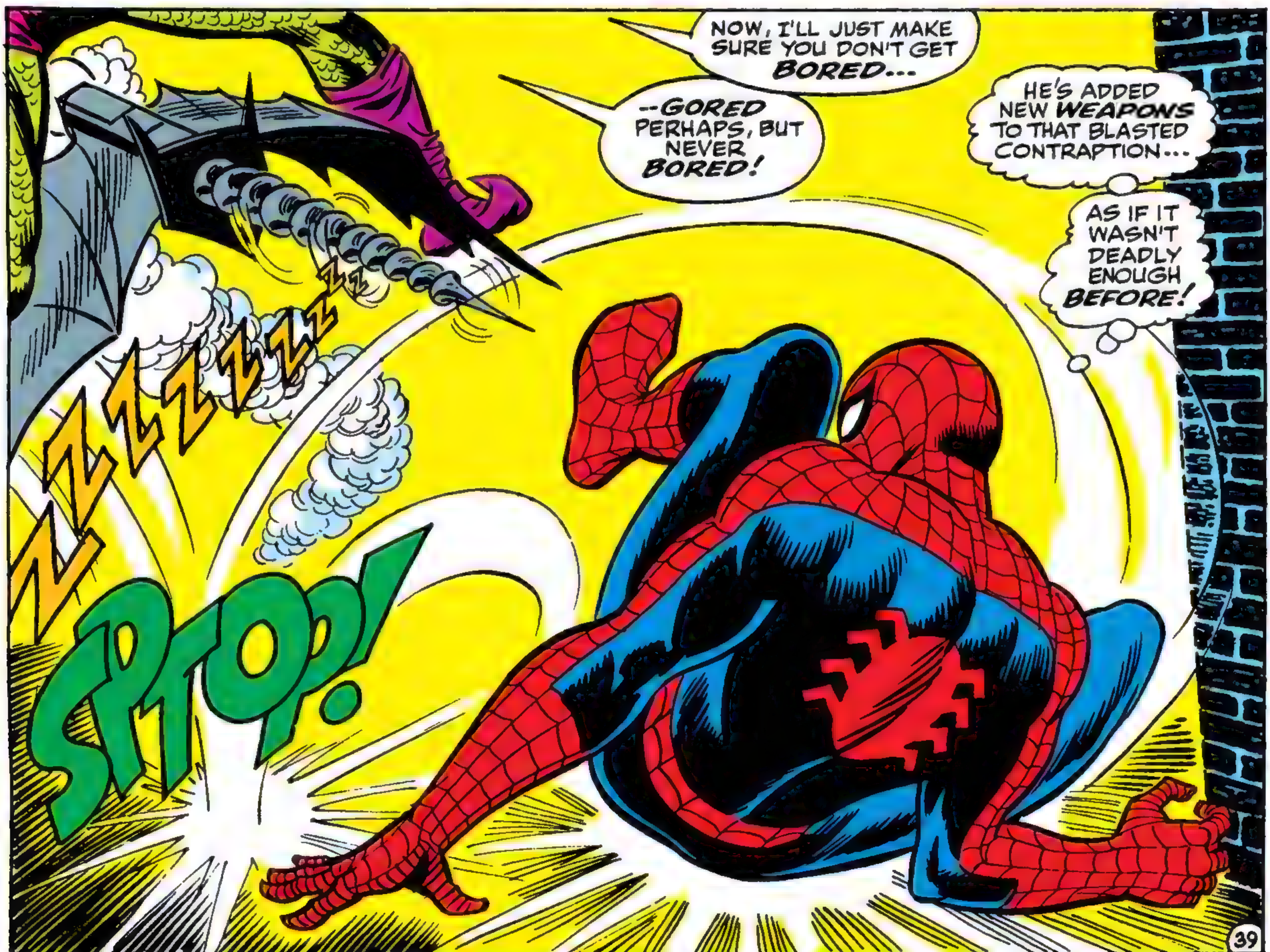


HOWEVER, THE WEB-SLINGER'S FEARSOME *FOE* IS NO SLOUCH IN THE *SPEED* DEPARTMENT HIMSELF...









SO! YOUR MUCH-
VAUNTED *SPIDER
SPEED* MANAGED
TO *SAVE* YOU
THAT TIME!

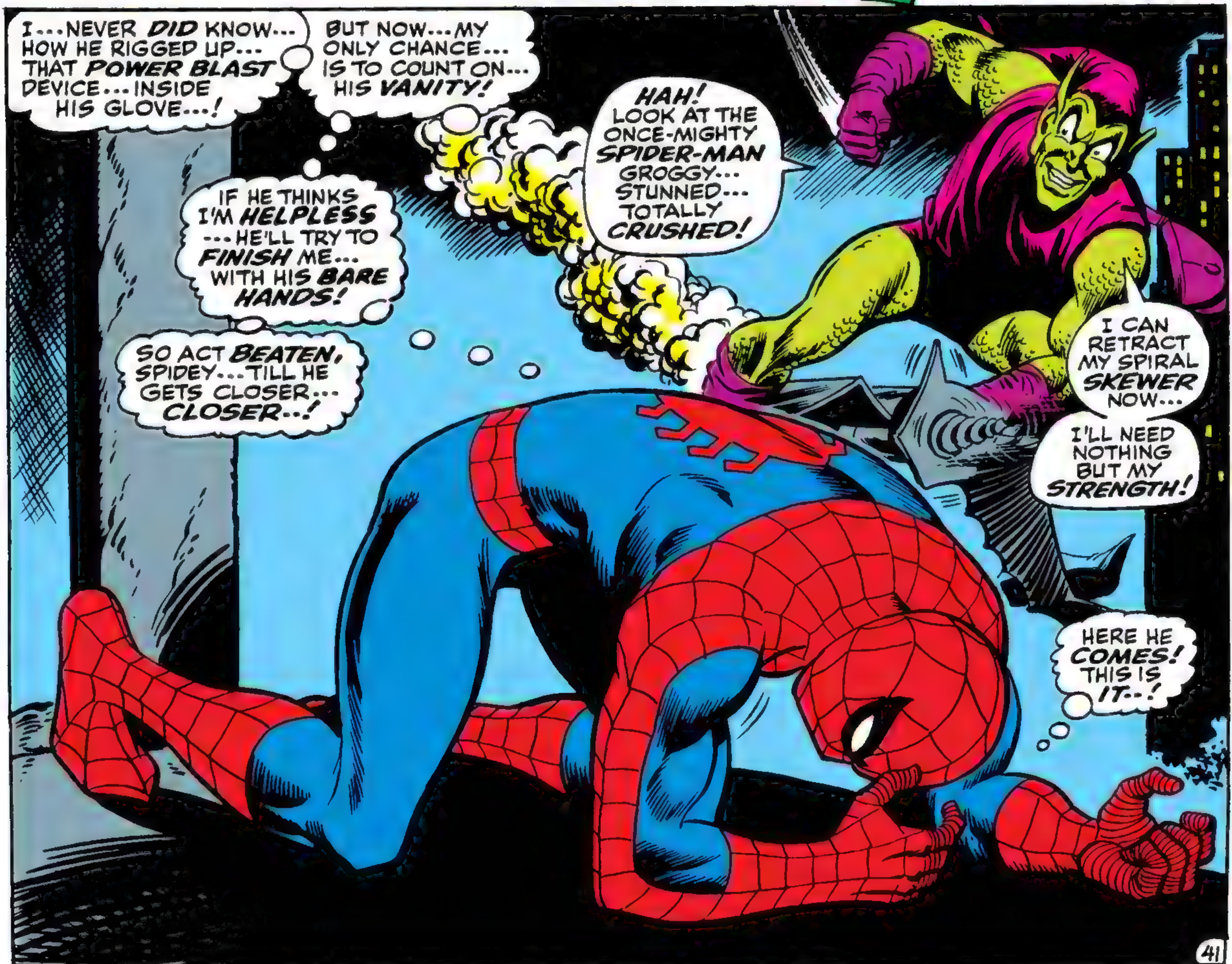
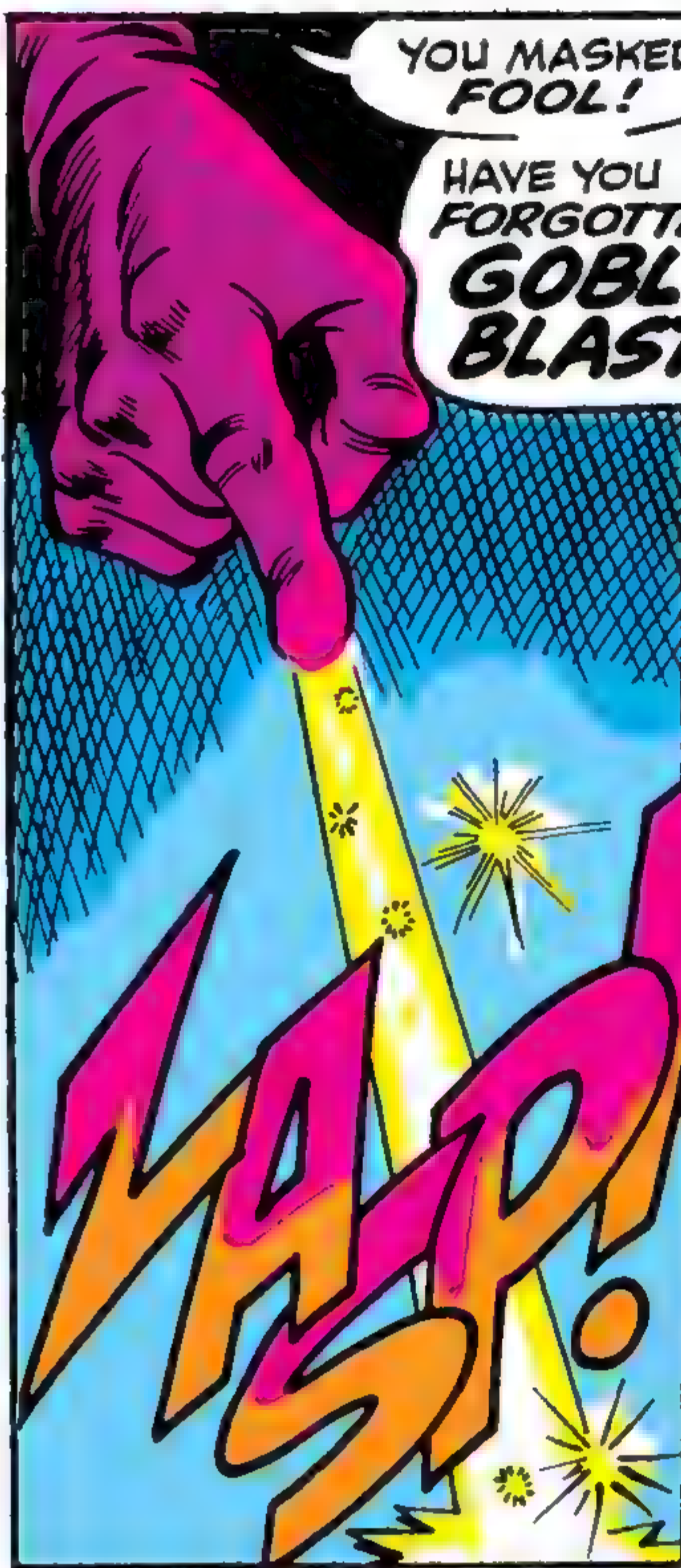
WELL, IN
A WAY...
THAT *PLEASES*
ME!

IT MEANS YOU
WILL LIVE *LONG*
ENOUGH...

YES, LONG ENOUGH
TO WATCH ME
DIVULGE *SPIDER-
MAN'S IDENTITY*
...TO YOUR UN-
SUSPECTING
AUNT MAY!

**NO!
NO!**

I'VE GOT
TO *STOP*
HIM... I'VE
GOT TO! NO
MATTER
WHAT!









**WE NOW
KNOW
WHO YOU
ARE!**

**YOUR
SECRET IS
A SECRET NO
LONGER!**

**DID YOU
THINK THAT
YOU...OR ANY-
ONE...COULD
POSSIBLY WIN
EVERY
BATTLE?**

**EVEN
THOUGH YOU
MAY HAVE
DEFEATED
OTHER MULTI-
POWERED
ARCHFOES IN
THE PAST...**

**THIS TIME
YOU HAVE
MET YOUR
MASTER!**

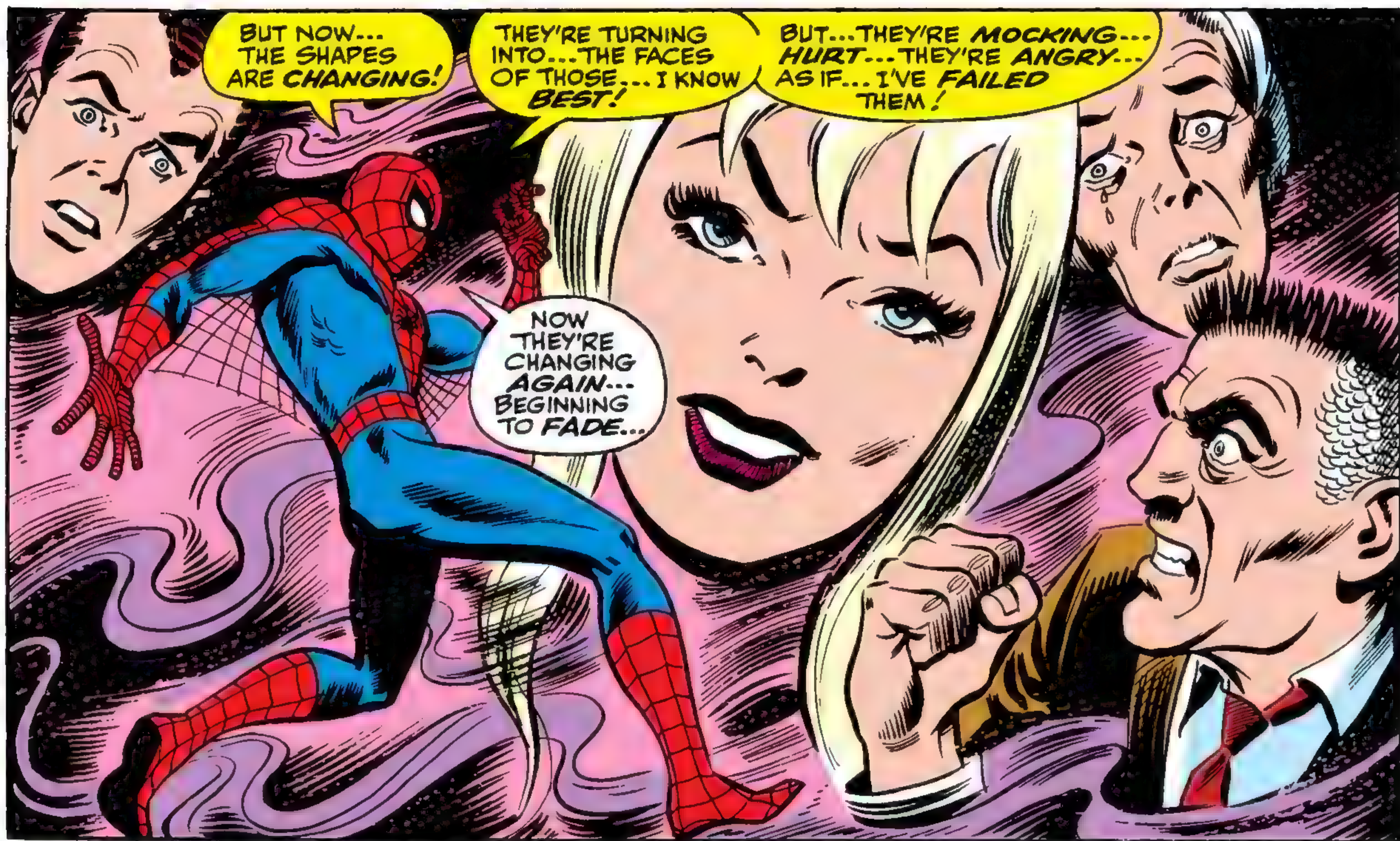
**FOR, THIS
TIME YOU WERE
FOOLHARDY
ENOUGH TO
CHALLENGE...**

**THE
GREEN
GOBLIN!!**

IT'S MAD!
IT ISN'T
POSSIBLE!
AND YET...

I SEE IT...
I HEAR
IT...

THEY'RE
ALL AROUND
ME!! GETTING
CLOSER...
CLOSER!
I CAN'T
ESCAPE...!



BUT NOW...
THE SHAPES
ARE CHANGING!

THEY'RE TURNING
INTO...THE FACES
OF THOSE... I KNOW
BEST!

BUT...THEY'RE MOCKING...
HURT...THEY'RE ANGRY...
AS IF... I'VE FAILED
THEM!

NOW
THEY'RE
CHANGING
AGAIN...
BEGINNING
TO FADE...



THEY'VE
BECOME
GIGANTIC
FIGURES...

FIGURES OF
MY WORST...MY
DEADLIEST
ENEMIES!

THEY'RE COMING
TOWARDS ME...
GROWING AS THEY
DRAW NEARER...

AND THE GOBLIN
IS LEADING THEM! IT'S
ALL HIS DOING! THIS
IS THE VICTORY HE'S
WAITED FOR!

NOW,
SPIDER-
MAN...
PREPARE
TO DIE!



ALL HOPE IS GONE! THERE IS NO ESCAPE FOR YOU...NO PLACE TO RUN!

YOU ARE WEAPONLESS...DEFENSELESS!

NO! YOU LIE!

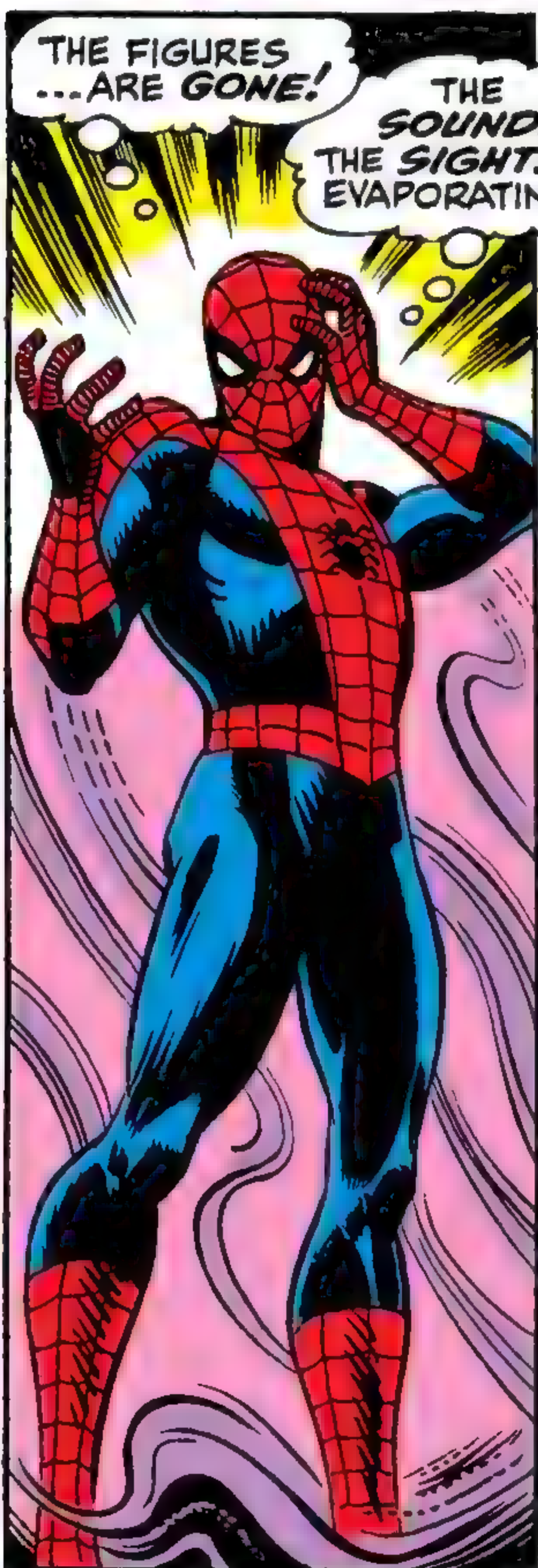


I'VE GOT MY BRAIN...MY BRAIN!! THE BRAIN THAT TELLS ME THIS CANNOT BE!

THE BRAIN THAT GIVES ME HOPE...WHEN THERE IS NO HOPE!

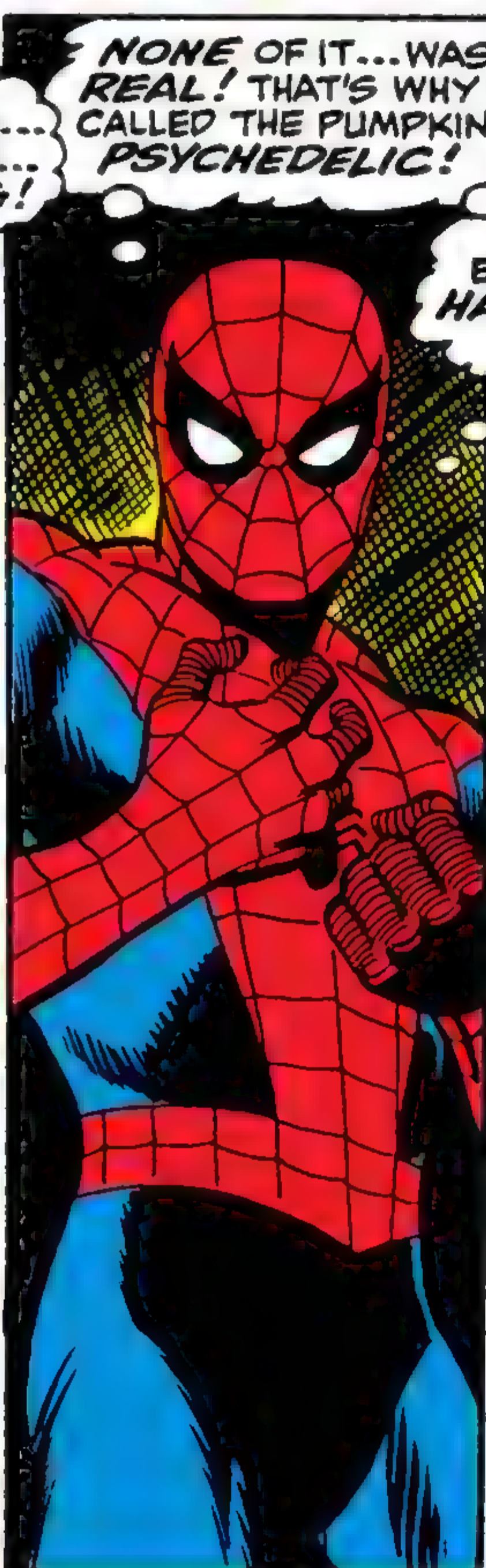
THE BRAIN THAT WILL NOT LET ME PANIC!

AND NOW, I KNOW AT LAST... THE WAY TO BEAT HIM!!



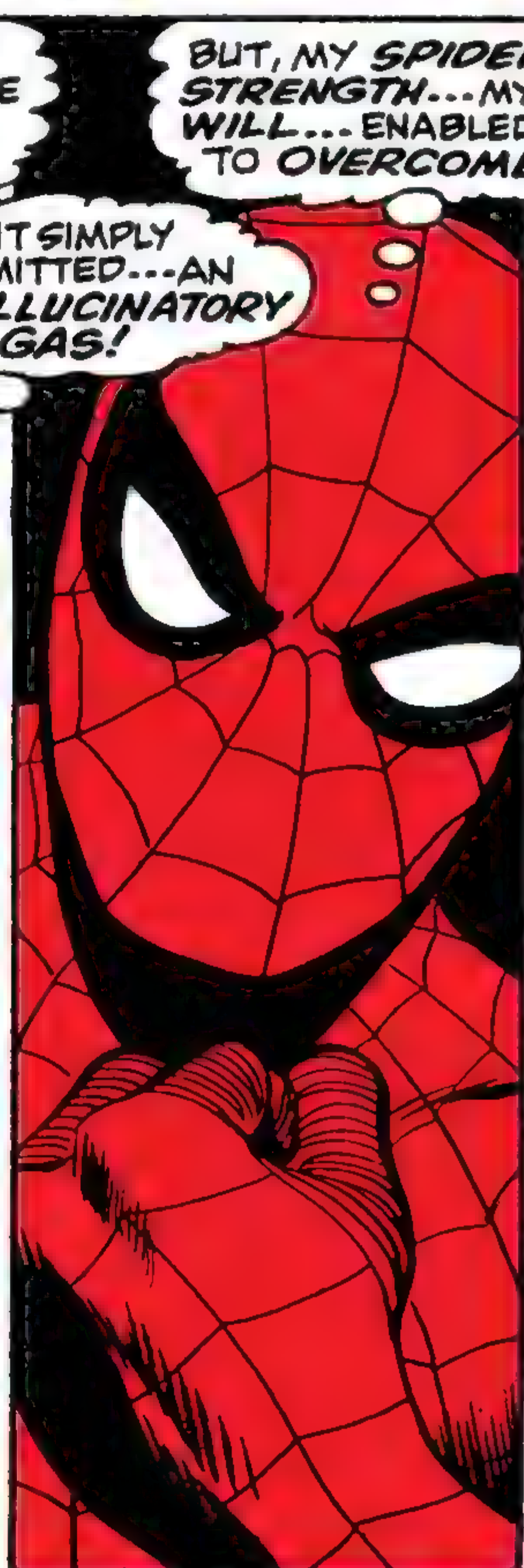
THE FIGURES...ARE GONE!

THE SOUNDS... THE SIGHTS... EVAPORATING!

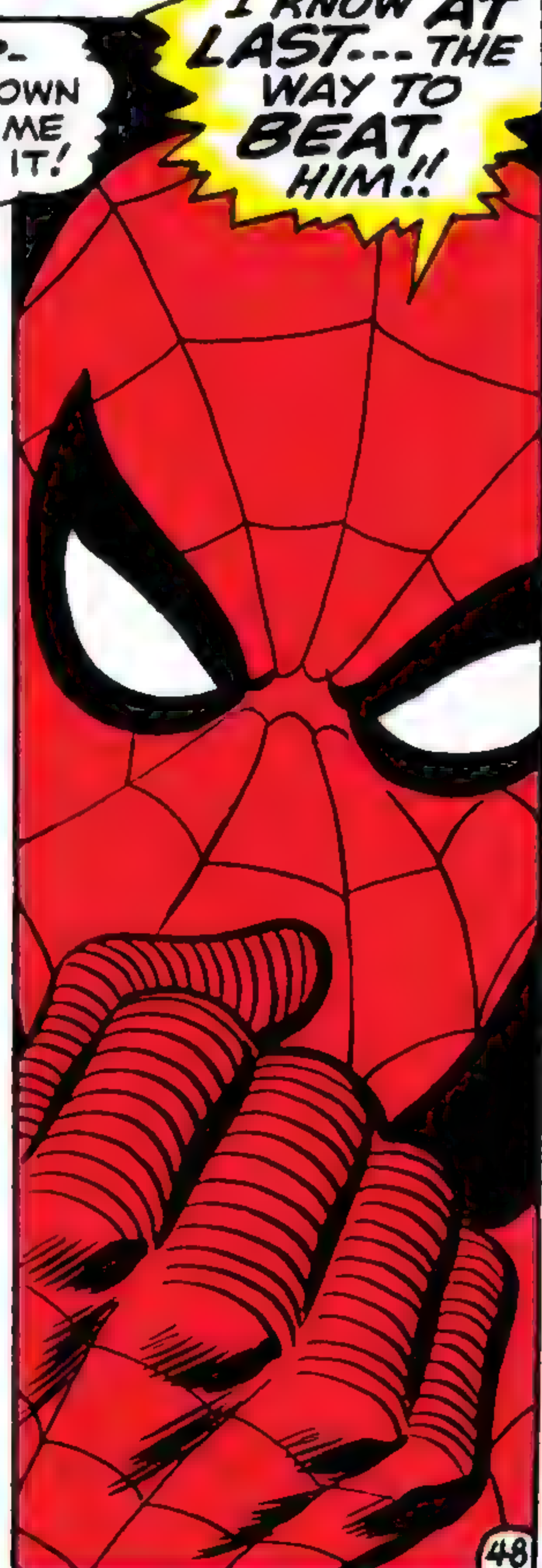


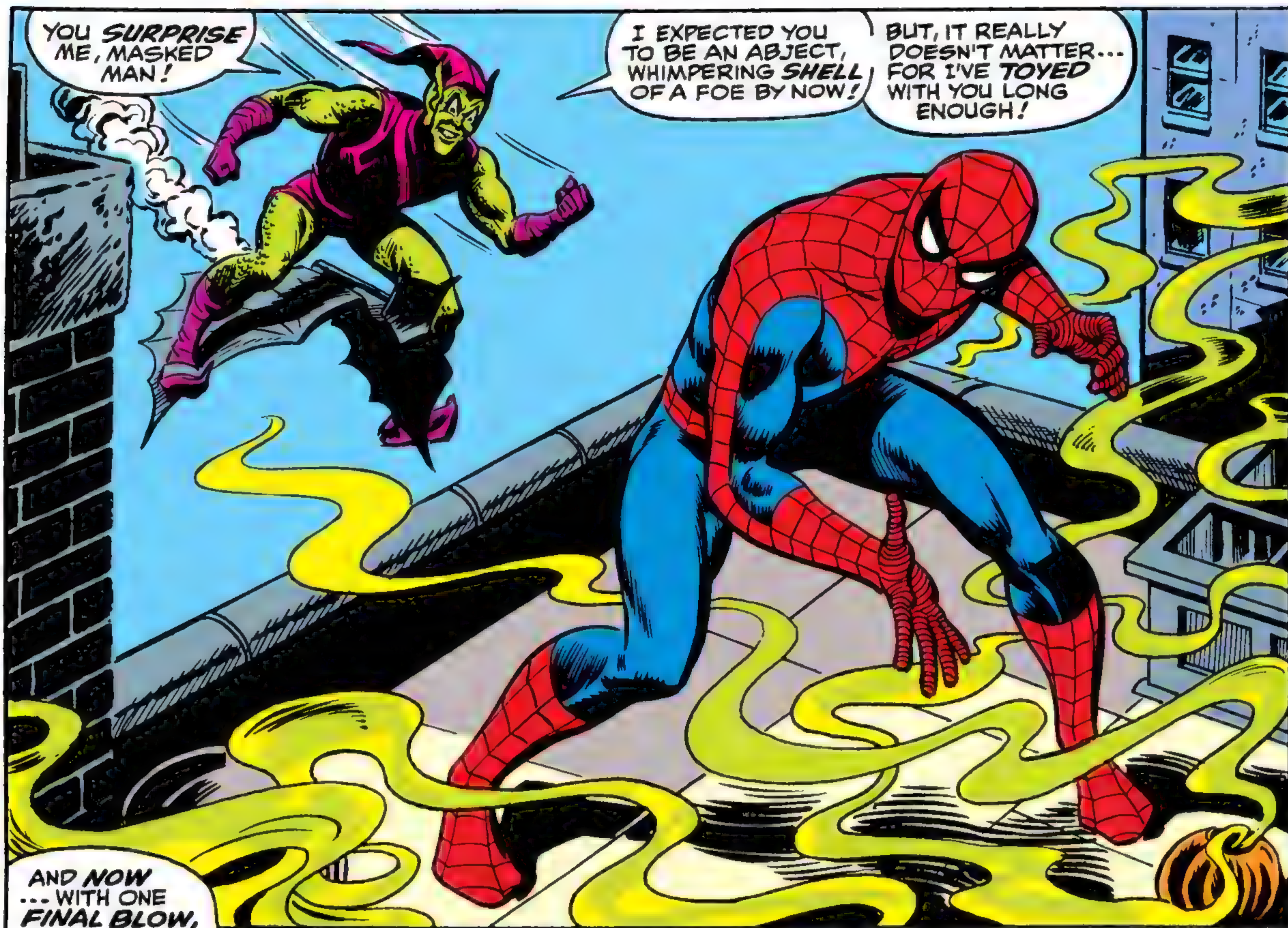
NONE OF IT...WAS REAL! THAT'S WHY HE CALLED THE PUMPKIN PSYCHEDELIC!

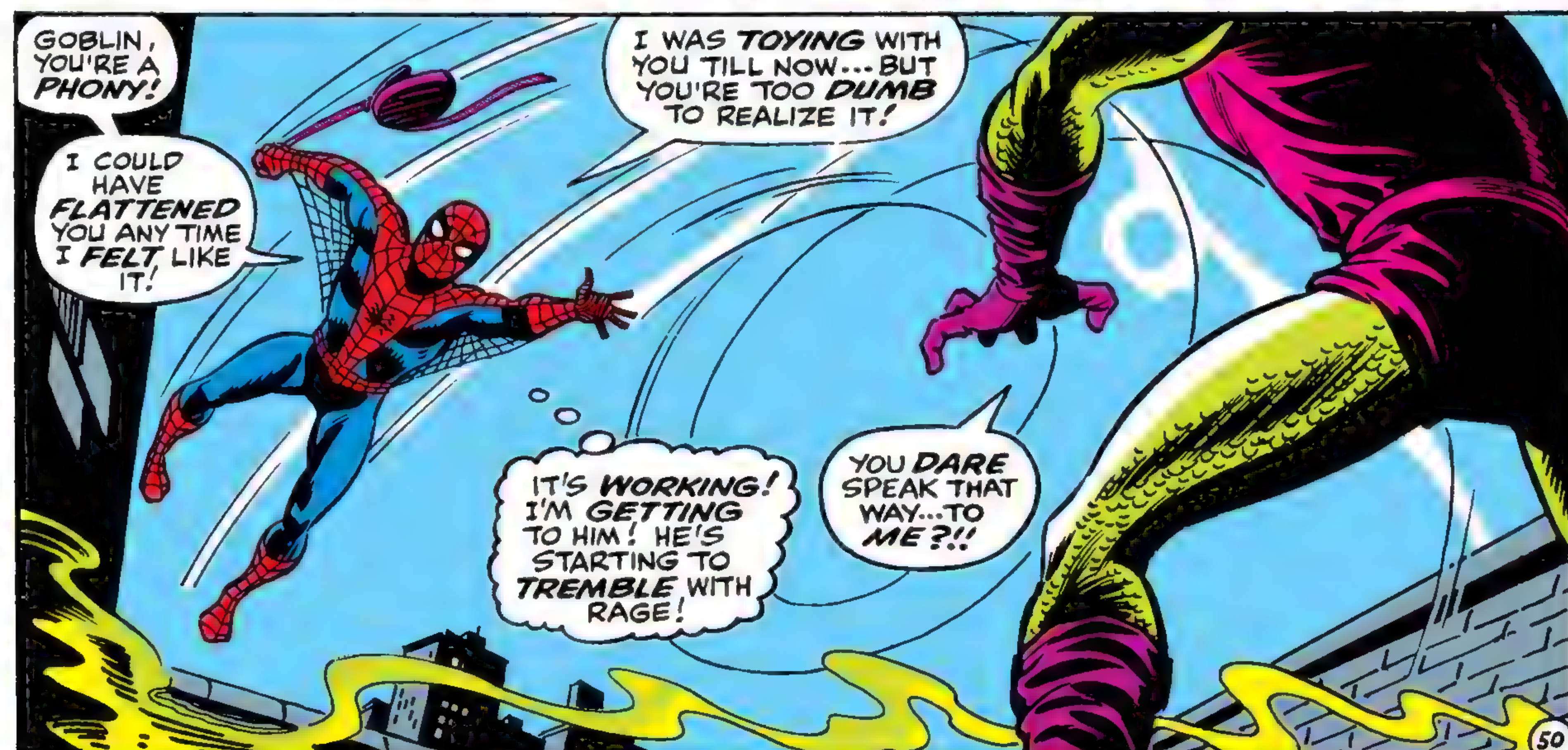
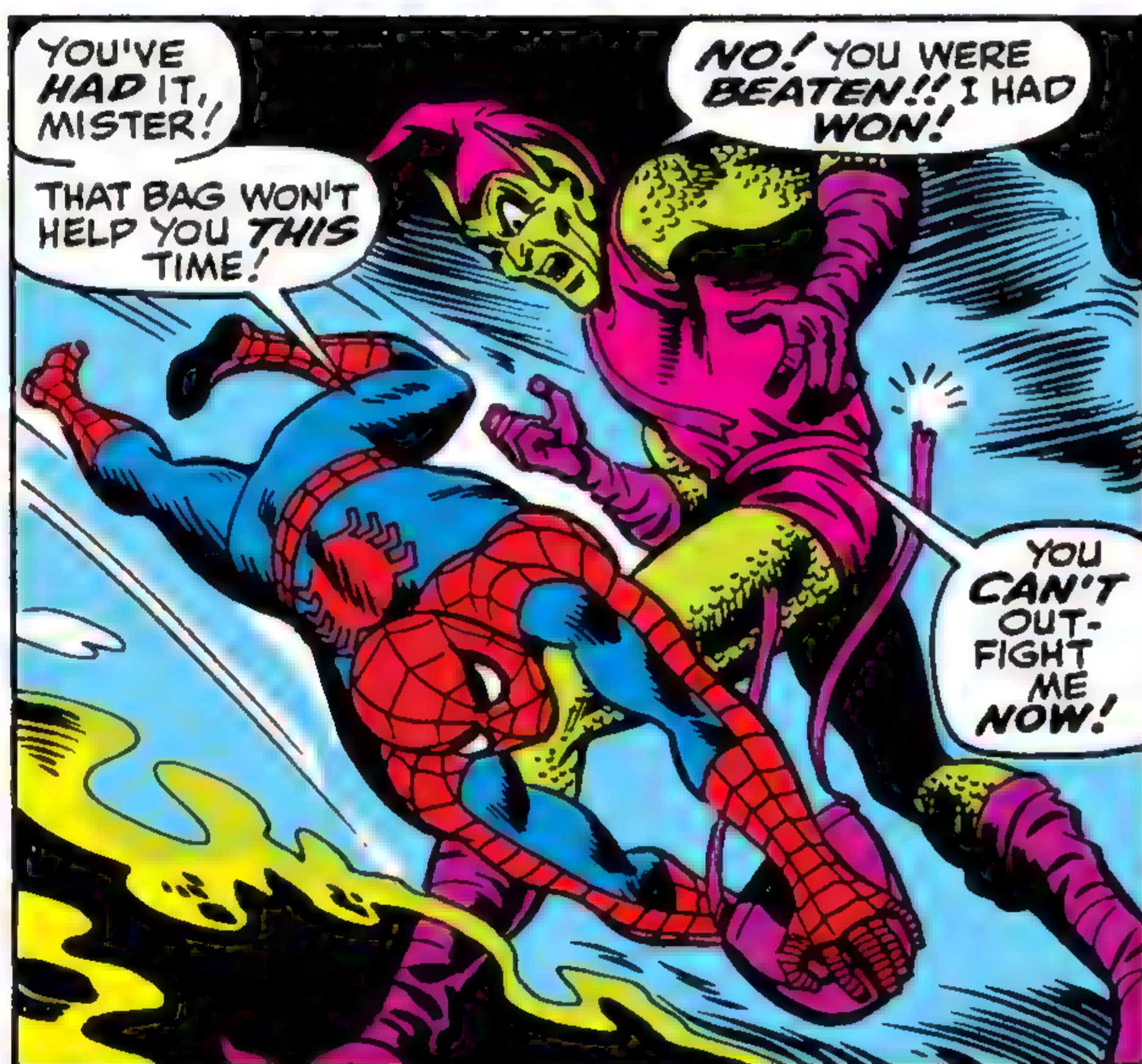
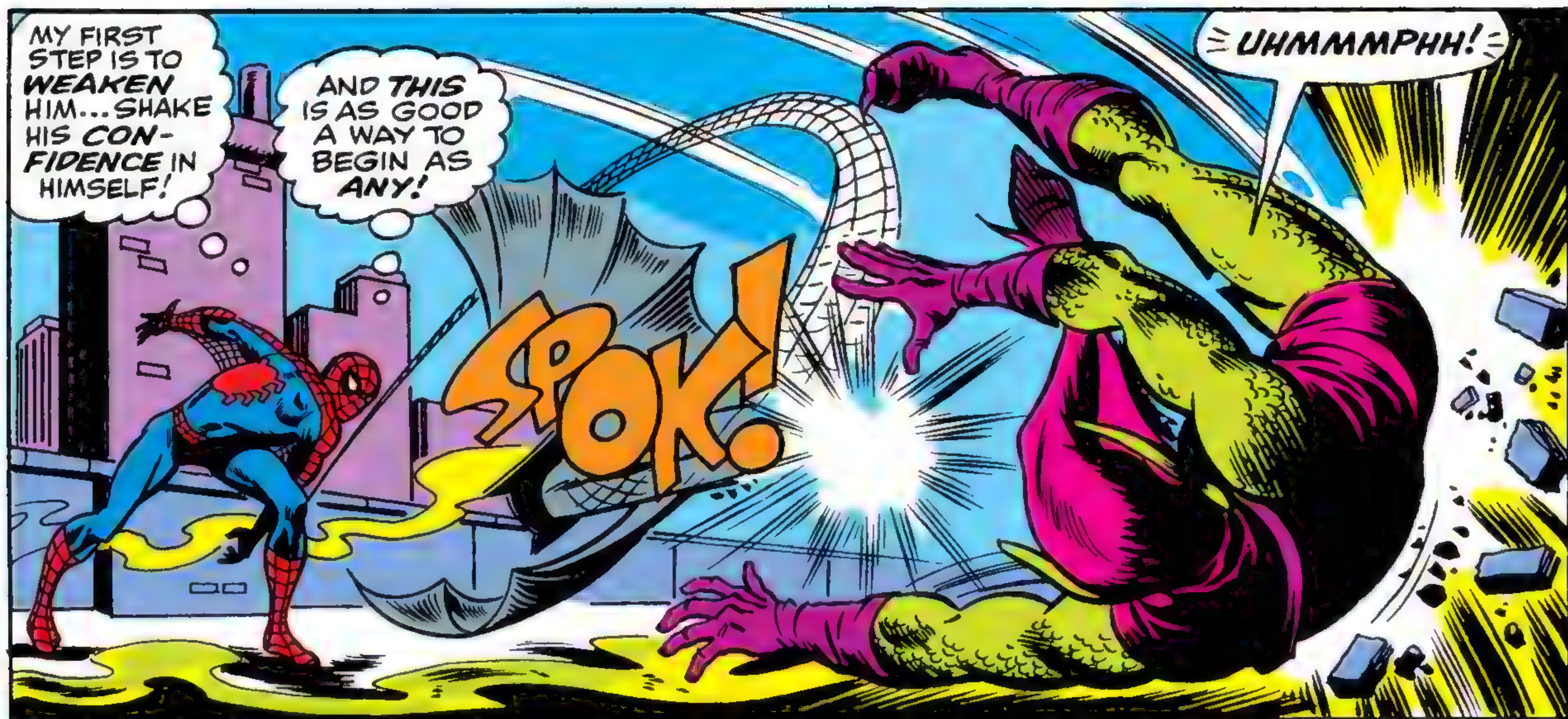
IT SIMPLY EMITTED...AN HALLUCINATORY GAS!

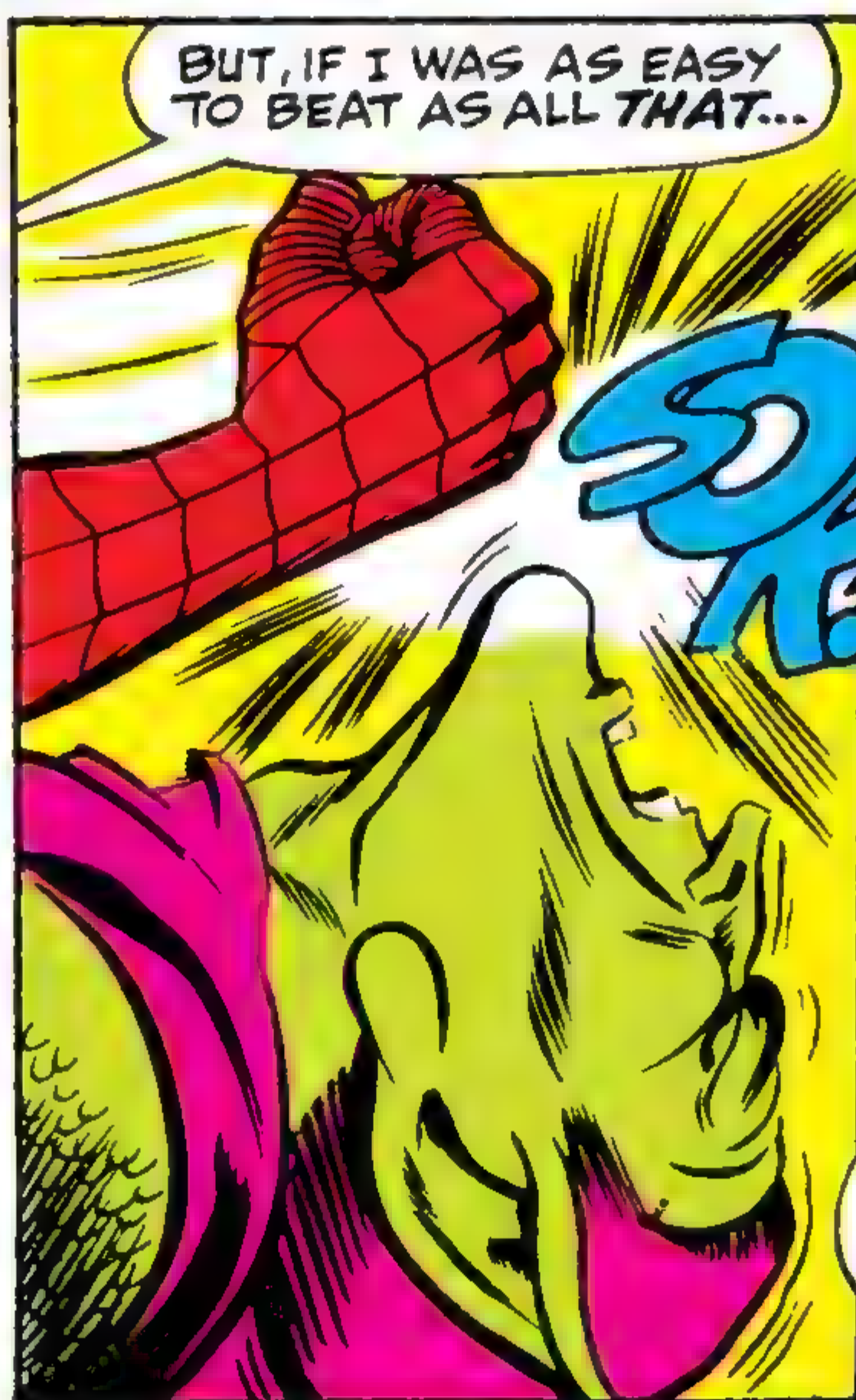
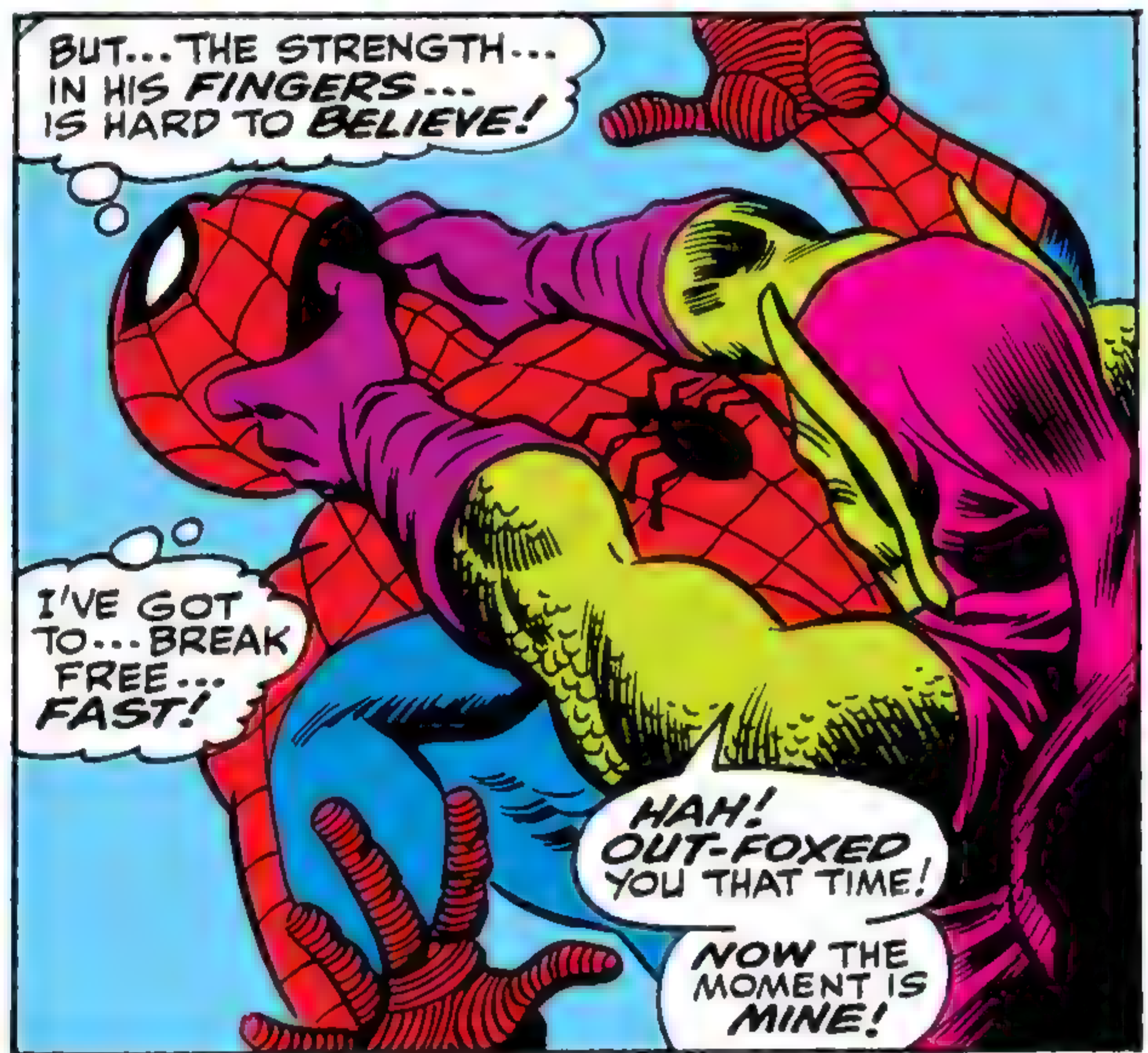


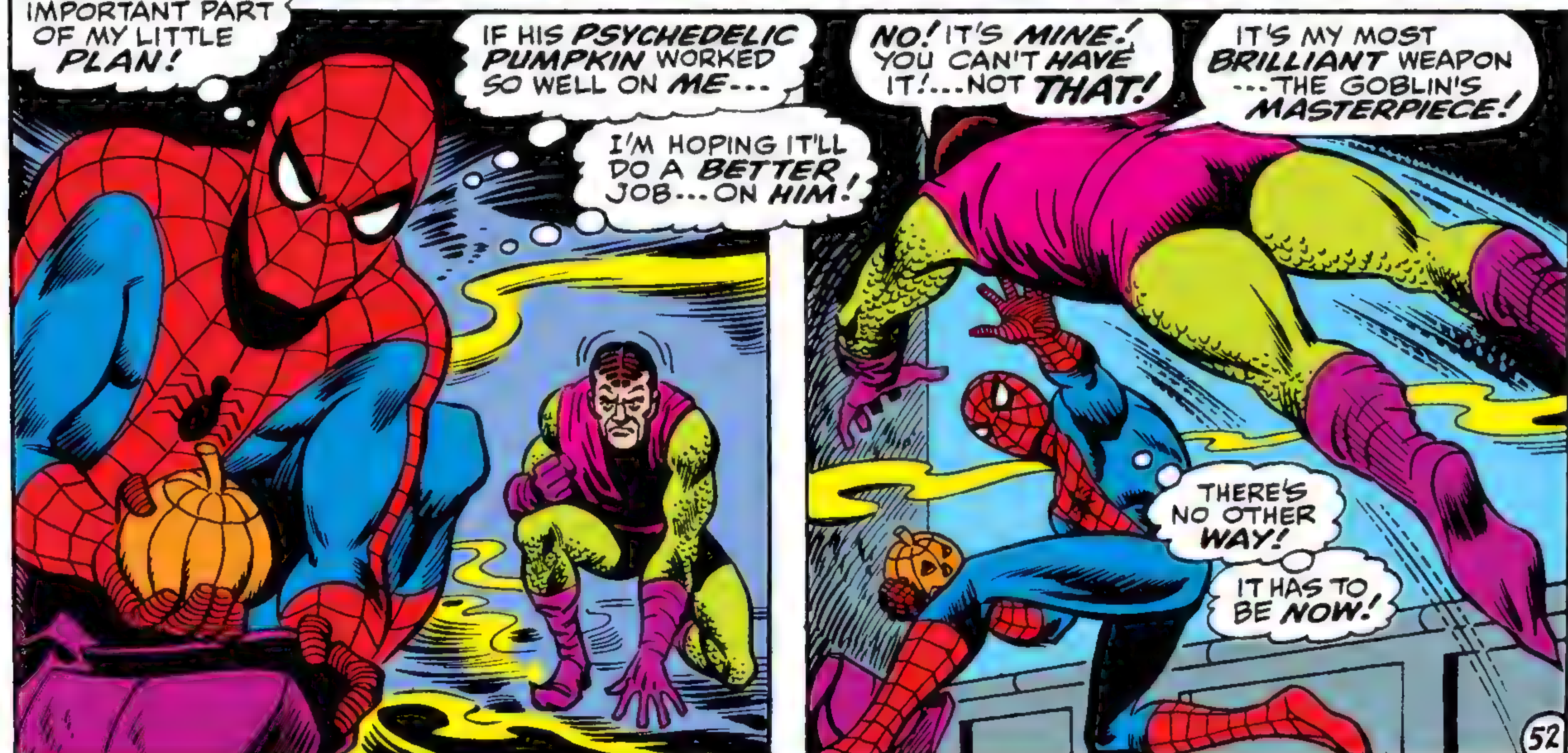
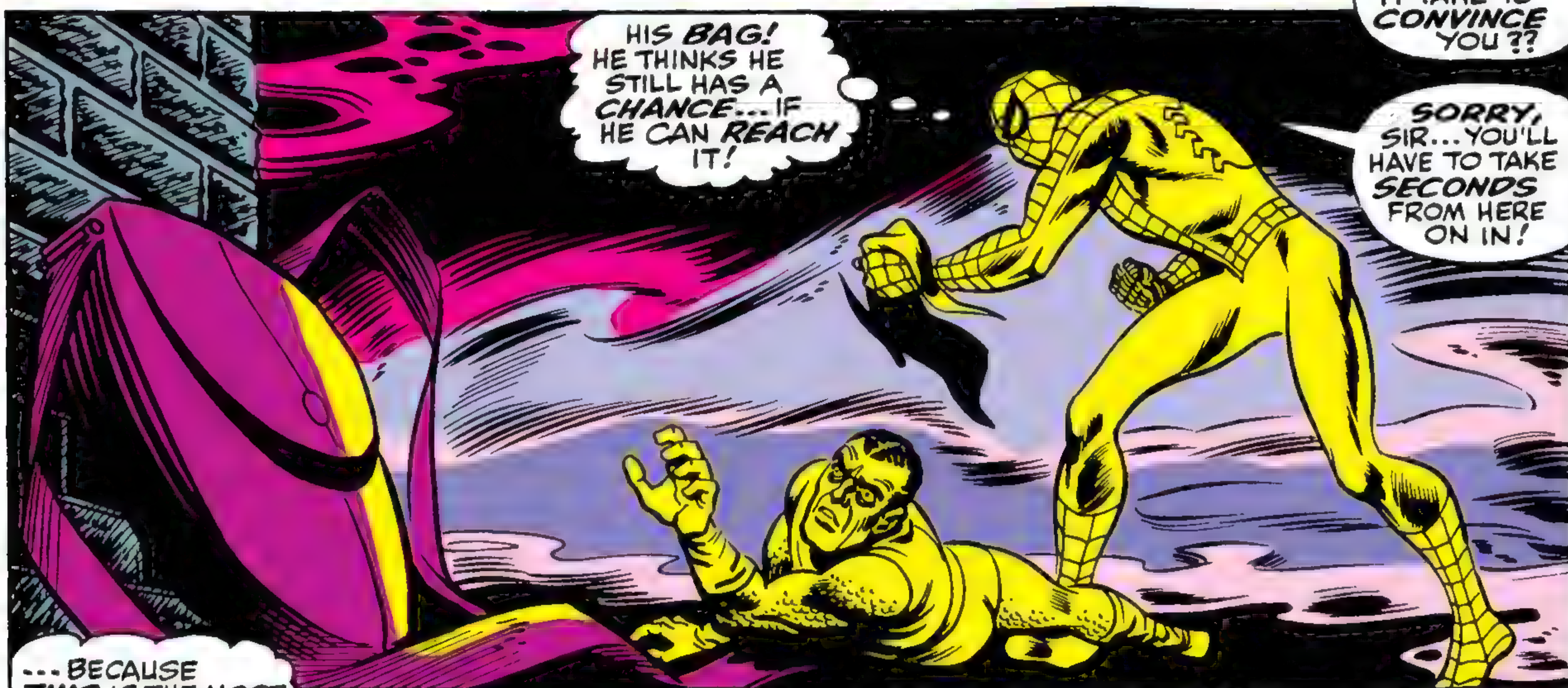
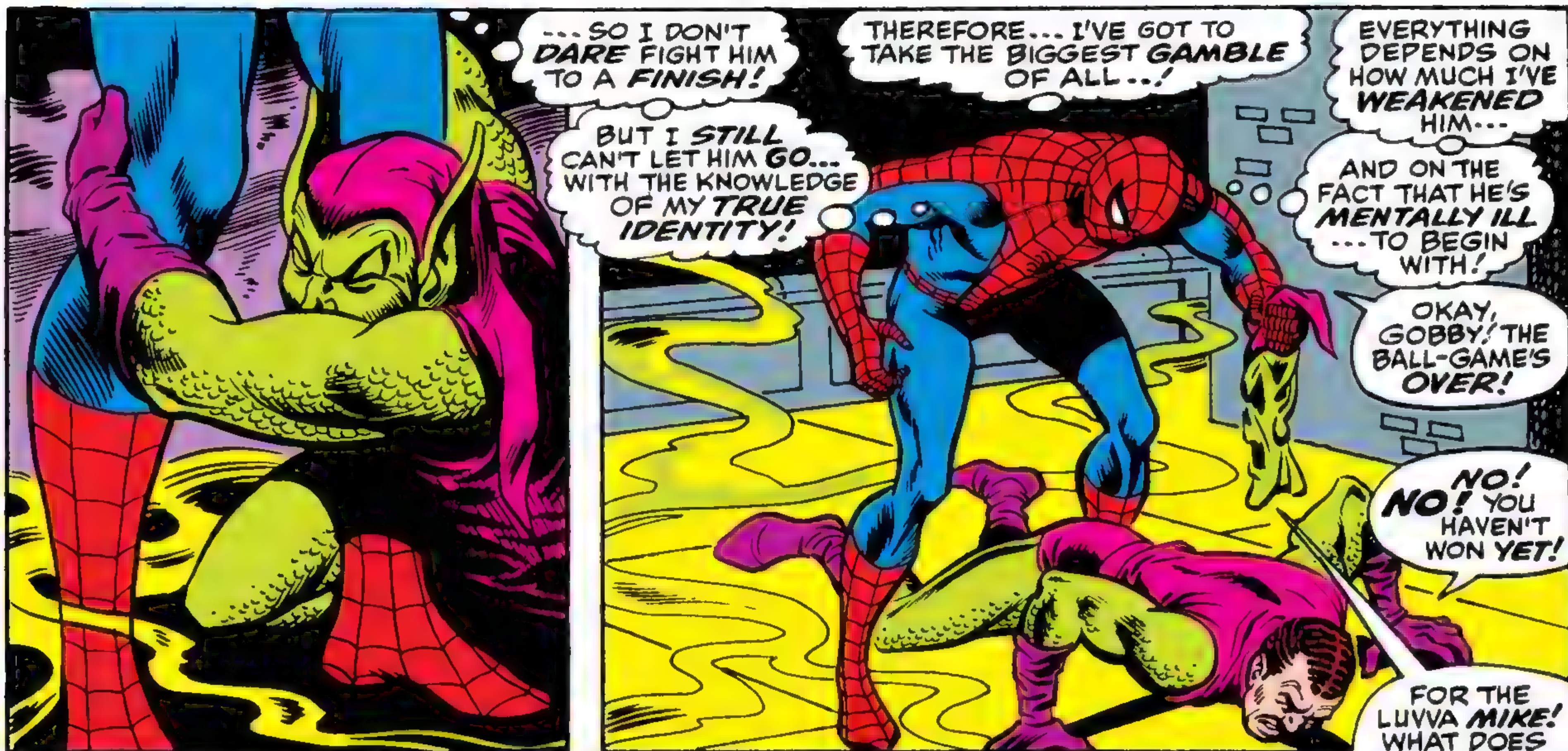
BUT, MY SPIDER-STRENGTH...MY OWN WILL...ENABLED ME TO OVERCOME IT!

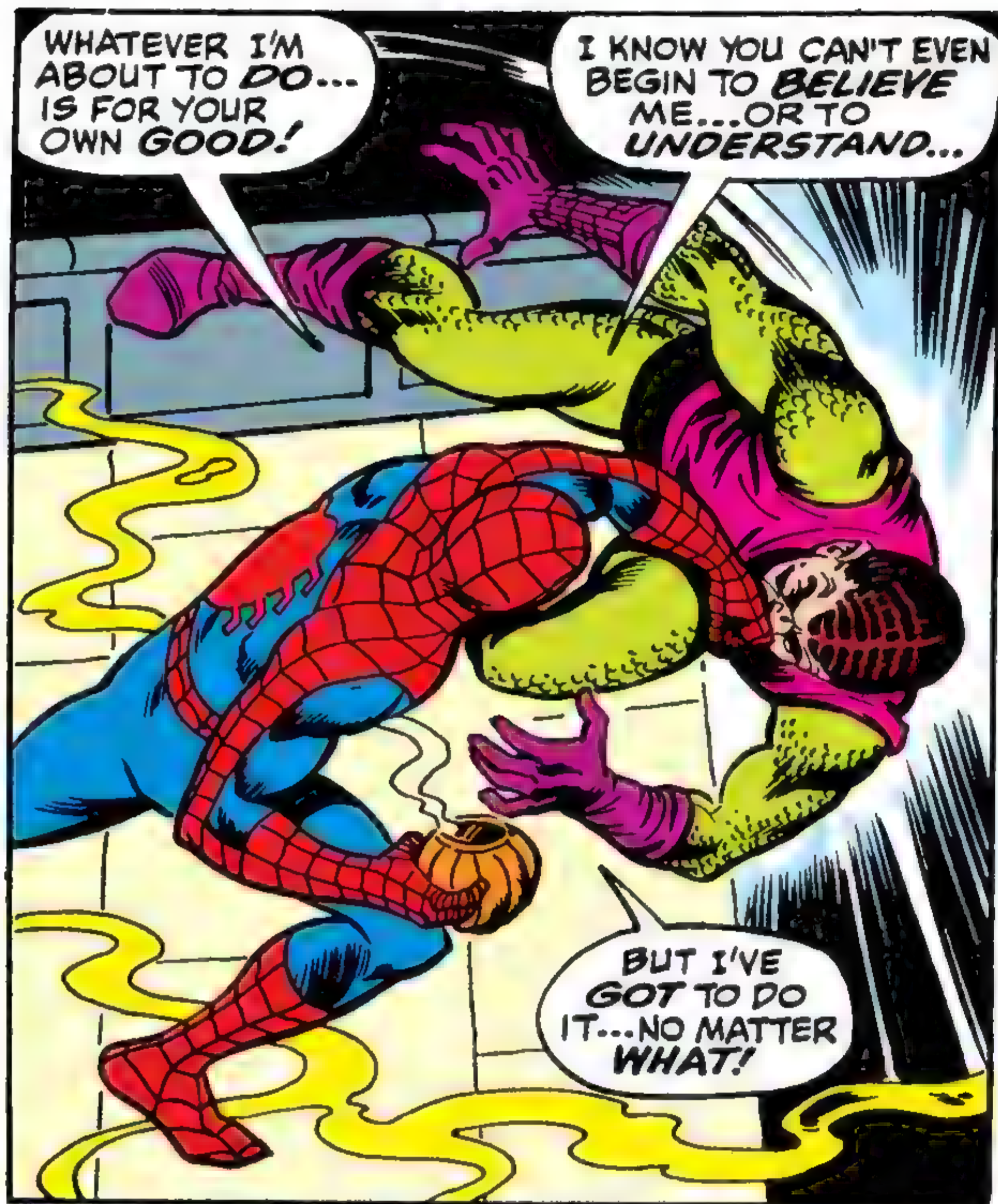












THE SECONDS TURN TO MINUTES
...AND THE MINUTES TICK MADDEN-
INGLY BY... AS THE SAME TWO
NAMES ARE REPEATED... OVER
AND OVER AND OVER UNTIL, AT
LAST...

THESE CLOTHES
I'M WEARING...
THEY'RE A
COSTUME!!

THEY'RE...
THE
GOBLIN'S
COSTUME!



I CAN'T
BEAR IT! NOT
THE GOBLIN!
NOT HIS COSTUME!
NOT HIS!!



SPIDER-
MAN!!

NO! NOT YOU,
TOO! STAY
BACK!
STAY
BACK!!

STAY
AWAY
FROM ME...
WHOEVER
YOU ARE!



THE WAY HE SAID:
"WHOEVER YOU
ARE"...!

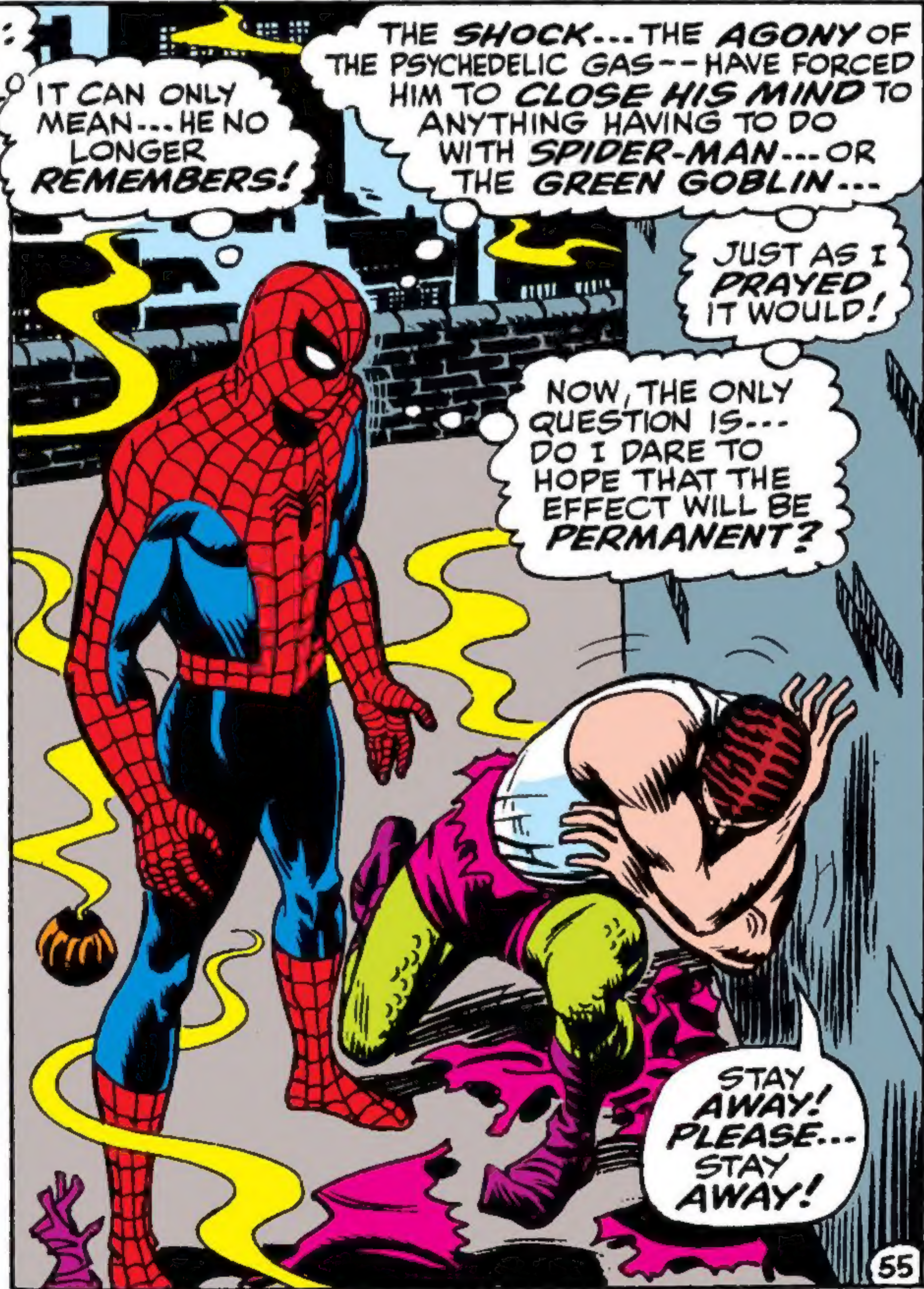
IT CAN ONLY
MEAN... HE NO
LONGER
REMEMBERS!

THE SHOCK... THE AGONY OF
THE PSYCHEDELIC GAS... HAVE FORCED
HIM TO CLOSE HIS MIND TO
ANYTHING HAVING TO DO
WITH SPIDER-MAN... OR
THE GREEN GOBLIN...

JUST AS I
PRAYED
IT WOULD!

NOW, THE ONLY
QUESTION IS...
DO I DARE TO
HOPE THAT THE
EFFECT WILL BE
PERMANENT?

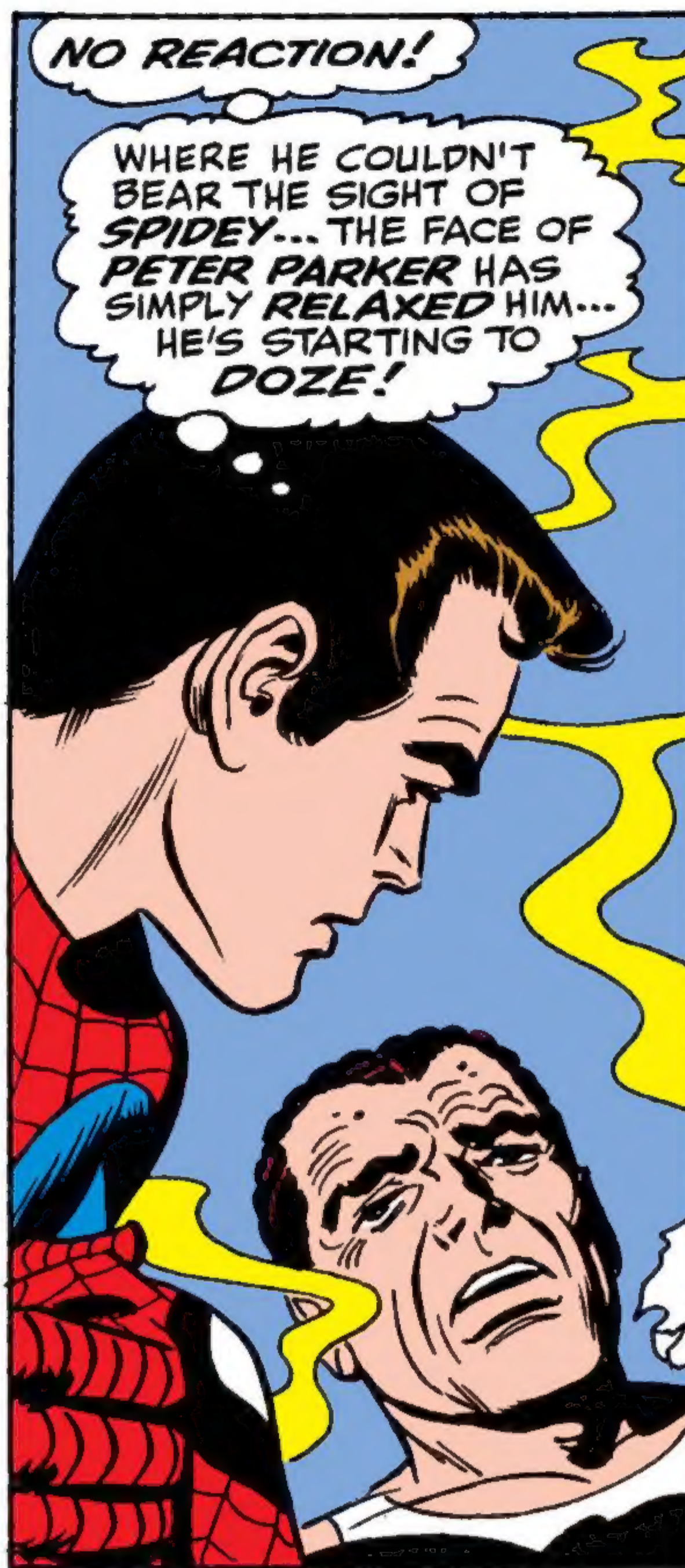
STAY
AWAY!
PLEASE...
STAY
AWAY!





NOW...
THE
FINAL
TEST!

I'LL REMOVE MY
MASK... AND SEE
IF HE STILL ASSOCIATES
PETER PARKER
WITH **SPIDER-MAN**!



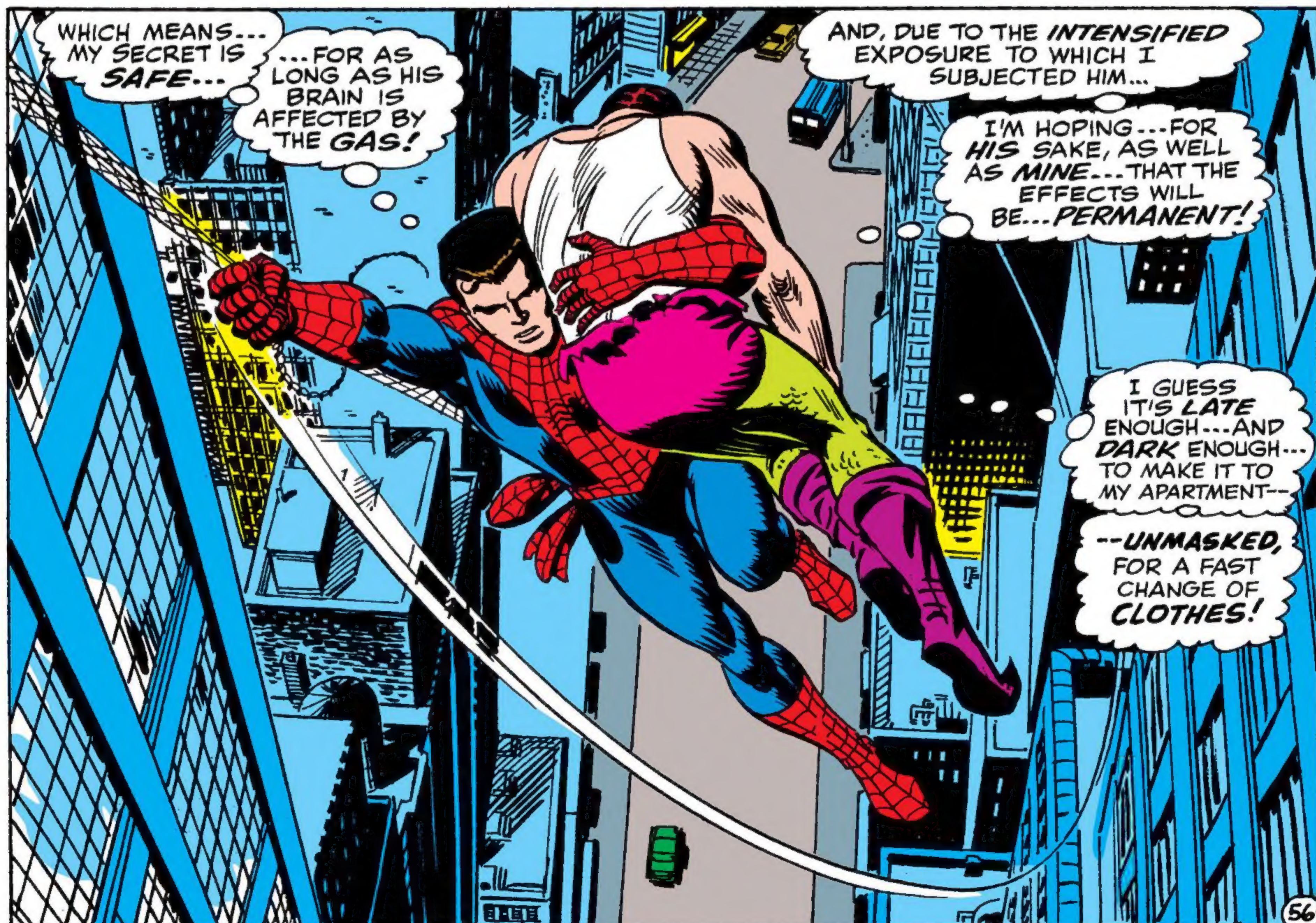
NO REACTION!

WHERE HE COULDN'T
BEAR THE SIGHT OF
SPIDEY... THE FACE OF
PETER PARKER HAS
SIMPLY **RELAXED** HIM...
HE'S STARTING TO
DOZE!



IF MY GUESS IS **RIGHT**, HE'LL
WAKE UP UNABLE TO **TALK**
ABOUT... OR EVEN **THINK**
ABOUT... ANYTHING TO DO
WITH THE **GREEN GOBLIN**...
OR **SPIDER-MAN**!

AND, AT THE SAME TIME,
HIS OWN **SUBCONSCIOUS**
WILL SHUT OUT ANY MEMORY
OF MY DUAL IDENTITY!



WHICH MEANS...
MY SECRET IS
SAFE...

...FOR AS
LONG AS HIS
BRAIN IS
AFFECTED BY
THE **GAS**!

AND, DUE TO THE **INTENSIFIED**
EXPOSURE TO WHICH I
SUBJECTED HIM...

I'M HOPING...FOR
HIS SAKE, AS WELL
AS **MINE**... THAT THE
EFFECTS WILL
BE... **PERMANENT**!

I GUESS
IT'S **LATE**
ENOUGH...AND
DARK ENOUGH...
TO MAKE IT TO
MY APARTMENT--

--**UNMASKED**,
FOR A FAST
CHANGE OF
CLOTHES!

MINUTES LATER...

NURSE...DO YOU STILL HAVE MR. OSBORN'S OLD ROOM AVAILABLE?

OH DEAR! WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM?

NOTHING SERIOUS, I HOPE! I THINK HE'S JUST OVER-TIRED!

PERHAPS HE WAS RELEASED FROM THE HOSPITAL A LITTLE TOO SOON!

HIS SON THREW A PARTY FOR HIM...AND THE EXCITEMENT MUST HAVE BEEN TOO MUCH!

WELL, THE IMPORTANT THING IS TO SEE THAT HE GETS PLENTY OF REST!

I'LL LOOK AFTER HIM, AND NOTIFY THE DOCTOR IMMEDIATELY!

AND I BETTER LET AUNT MAY KNOW THAT I'M OKAY!

BETTER CALL HIS SON NOW, NURSE!

IF I KNOW HARRY, HE'LL BE WORRIED ABOUT HIS DAD!

PETER DEAR! WHY ON EARTH ARE YOU PHONING SO LATE?

WHAT? YOU WANTED TO LET ME KNOW...EVERYTHING IS ALL RIGHT? THERE'S NO MORE DANGER?

WHAT SORT OF DANGER?

I'M AFRAID I DON'T UNDERSTAND!

OH, BROTHER! I REALLY DID IT THIS TIME!

WHY DID I HAVE TO CALL HER WHEN I WAS SO TIRED...AND NOT THINKING CLEARLY?

WHAT AM I GONNA SAY NOW?

PETER! IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG? WHY ARE YOU ACTING SO STRANGELY?

NO, AUNT MAY... YOU MISUNDERSTOOD! I, EH, REALLY WANTED TO SAY THAT MR. OSBORN IS IN NO DANGER! THEY FOUND HIM! HE'S ALL RIGHT!

OH, YOU DEAR, DEAR BOY... CALLING ME SO I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT YOUR FRIEND'S FATHER!

HOW VERY THOUGHTFUL OF YOU!

PETER??

YEAH... THOUGHTFUL!!

